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CIS Border Troops Command Council Meets

LD0511210293 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1500 GMT 5 Nov 93

[By correspondent Liliya Lashchenko; from the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] A meeting of the council of commanders of the CIS memberstates border troops has ended in Minsk. Only the representatives of Moldova, Tajikistan, and Georgia failed to attend. There was discussion of practical issues relating to the operation of the border troops and cooperation in providing equipment and finances, training of personnel, and also everything related to making legislation compatible. Joint measures to step up the fight against narcotics smuggling were worked out.

A news conference was held immediately after the meeting.

[Begin Nikolayev recording] The situation on the Tajik-Afghan border remains extremely difficult. Following the changes in weather conditions, the opposition forces are regrouping in the sectors where they can operate in the winter period, namely the Pyandzh sector, the 48th detachment's sector, and the sector where the Moscow border detachment operates. We have drawn up proposals for the heads of states and government to resolve the objectives which must be met to ensure the functioning of the border troops in the Republic of Tajikistan, the grouping of Russian Federation Border Troops, as well as the forces which will be arriving to reinforce the border defense units as part of the collective forces. [end recording]

ITAR-TASS Carries Press Review for 6 Nov

LD0611073493 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0658 GMT 6 Nov 93

["Press Review"—ITAR-TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, November 6 (ITAR-TASS)—Most Moscow newspaper ponder today over the problem: How should November 7 be regarded, is it a holiday or not?

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA carries an article on this subject, entitled "October 1917 Is Part of History. It Is Senseless To Question the Fact." According to the newspaper, too many changes have taken place in the country, and the unanimous rejoicing over the anniversaries of the October Revolution, typical of the past, can hardly be brought back. On the other hand, "it is hardly possible to rule out that date from people's memory with one stroke."

KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA publishes a commentary in this connection by D. Shevarov. "I do not have to be sure that those, who will consider themselves to be the leaders of my country, are incorruptible and wise. I only want to be sure that they love Russia the way it is—with this autumn, these roads and the Aurora Cruise, moored forever at the Petrogradskaya embankment," he writes. According to KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA, 72.5 per cent of Muscovites, polled by it, answered in the affirmative to the question about whether or not they will celebrate in any way November 7. However, 35 per cent of them regard it just as a tradition, a historic date.

TRUD publishes a commentary entitled "From October 1917 to October 1993. Russia's Tragic Fate." The newspaper recalls that the revolution, ruled not by law or humanism, but by "revolutionary expediency", was being implemented in conditions of the fratricidal civil war, which brought destruction and hunger, and manifested itself in the suppression of dissent and massive repressions. However, to erase the past simply by cancelling the traditional holiday and introducing a new one, to which people have not got accustomed yet, "is not the best way to consolidate still fragile Russian democracy."

PRAVDA rejects the idea, repeatedly expressed by various mass media organs over the past several years, that the October Revolution was a "historic mistake". It stresses that to repudiate the past, "to abase oneself before other values, to humbly admit some historic mistakes means to have no respect for oneself, or for one's ancestors either."

NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA sets forth the articles of the fundamental law of the Russian Federation, which will be submitted for a nationwide referendum. The newspaper urges to adopt the constitution, "adopted by Boris Yeltsin in the form, in which he found it necessary."

NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA also carries an interview with James Percell, director general of the International Migration Organisation, who visited Russia late in October. According to Percell, migration has been a positive factor for the receiving side the world over. Representatives of the organisation, who are working in Moscow, will do all they can for this trend to be revealed in Russia to the full. He pointed out that the main task of the Russian authorities should be, in the first place, to find shelter and organise normal life for the Russians, coming from other republics.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA carries an interview with Lieutenant General Konstantin Bogdanov, head of the main department for work with the personnel at the Russian Defence Ministry. It deals with the procedure for the participation of Russian officers and men in the forthcoming elections, with a ban on any political propaganda, including within the framework of the electoral campaign, in the areas of deployment of units of the Russian Armed Forces.

Kozyrev Comments on Talks With Ukraine's Zlenko

Moscow Prepared To Give Guarantees

LD0611185893 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1705 GMT 6 Nov 93

[Text] Moscow is prepared to give Kiev security guarantees when nuclear arms are withdrawn from Ukraine, Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev told Interfax on Saturday upon his return from Odessa where he had conferred with his Ukrainian counterpart, Anatoliy Zlenko.

In comments on his own statement that the safety of nuclear weapons deployed in Ukraine can be guaranteed for only 24 months, Kozyrev said he can only wish that this assessment was dramatized. According to him, it's better to dramatize the situation and remove nuclear arms from Ukraine in 24 months in compliance with the Massandra agreements. This is what he discussed in Odessa, he said.

Kozyrev described the allegations that Russia is exerting "diplomatic pressure" on Ukraine as "overdramatized".

"We exerted no pressure on Ukraine. But there are realities we cannot run away from. These are agreements signed in Massandra by President Yeltsin and by President Kravchuk. We are neither authorized nor desirous to revise them," Kozyrev said.

According to him, they managed to find solutions to a number of issues under discussion.

On September 3 in the town of Massandra in the Crimea Boris Yeltsin and Leonid Kravchuk agreed to transfer to Russia the Ukrainian share of the Black Sea Fleet to cover Ukraine's debt for earlier fuel supplies from Russia. Besides, the two presidents agreed on a procedure for removing nuclear weapons deployed in Ukraine to Russia.

Ukraine Committed to Treaties

LD0611225093 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 2200 GMT 6 Nov 93

[Text] The Russian Foreign Minister, Andrey Kozyrev, believes that Ukraine is committed to its intention to ratify the Nuclear Arms Nonproliferation Treaty [NPT] and the Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty, START I. Kozyrev made the statement after two days of talks with his Ukrainian counterpart, Anatoliy Zlenko, in Odessa. The Russian foreign minister said he understood the Ukrainian parliament's concern about the country's national security. Kozyrev said that Russia was prepared to give Ukraine such guarantees after the removal of nuclear arms from Ukraine.

Returns From Odessa

LD0611152793 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1439 GMT 6 Nov 93

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Georgiy Shmelyov]

[Text] Moscow November 6 TASS—Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev has returned to Moscow from Odessa today. He held talks with his Ukrainian counterpart, Anatoliy Zlenko.

The negotiations included a wide range of issues on bilateral relations connected, in particular, with the implementation of the Massandra agreements concluded on September 3 this year.

Andrey Kozyrev was on a two-day working visit to Ukraine at the invitation of the Ukrainian foreign minister.

Diplomats Comment

PM0811092393 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 6 Nov 93 First Edition pp 1, 3

[Leonid Mlechin report: "Ukraine Will Stop Receiving Cheap Oil and Gas If It Does Not Give Up Its Nuclear Weapons. Russian Minister Takes Tough Line at Talks in Kiev"]

[Text] Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev has flown to Ukraine for talks with his counterpart Anatoliy Zlenko. The main topic will be the nuclear weapons remaining in Ukraine. What is Moscow's stance?

Russian diplomats invariably say that they have no intention of putting pressure on Kiev, and immediately add that Moscow's entire Ukrainian policy will depend on ratification of the first Treaty on Strategic Arms Limitation (SALT I), accession to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, and the withdrawal of warheads.

"It is naive to expect Russia to continue supplying Ukraine with equipment for its nuclear power stations for free, and with oil and gas virtually for free, if Kiev does not honor its commitments," a high-ranking Russian Foreign Ministry staffer told IZVESTIYA.

That stance will inevitably be seen as blackmail by many political parties in Ukraine, where an election campaign is also under way. When Boris Yeltsin spoke about "pulling the plug on them" after his summer talks with President Kravchuk, that made a bad impression on Ukrainians.

It is absolutely essential for Russian diplomacy to come to an understanding with Ukraine. Russian-Ukrainian accord was the basis for the creation of the CIS. Relations with Ukraine remain the basis of the CIS. Economic union is impossible without Ukraine.

Russia would have nothing against Ukraine's desire to have nuclear weapons were this a purely bilateral

problem, the diplomat remarked. The missiles stationed in Ukraine are not targeted at Russia. So it is other people who should be worrying.

However, there are no isolated problems in politics.

If Ukraine renounces nuclear-free status, Russia will have another nuclear neighbor in addition to China, and Moscow may have to review its attitude toward the disarmament process so as not to harm its own security, another Russian diplomat, who tackles arms control problems, said.

First, the nuclear nonproliferation regime will not brook exceptions. All you have to do is make an exception for Ukraine and all the world community's efforts to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons will go down the Suwannee.

Second, there is a tremendous danger of environmental disaster because of the poor state of Ukraine's remaining nuclear warheads. The general designers—the people who manufactured the warheads—warn that in a while they will simply end up in an emergency condition [pridut v avariynoye sostoyaniye]. Then Russian plants will no longer undertake to dismantle them.

Third, the danger of nuclear terrorism cannot be ruled out. Events like the 3-4 October mutiny in Moscow are possible not only in Russia. Especially since you cannot describe Ukraine as in any way politically stable.

That is why Russia is insisting that Ukraine honor its pledge to take to Russia all nuclear munitions within 24 months of ratification of START I. If the uranium obtained from the warheads is sold on the world market, Ukraine will receive its share.

Russian diplomats are concerned that people in West Europe and the United States have begun talking about Ukraine's defenselessness, the need to defend it and prevent its "returning to Russia's orbit," and as a result they intend to recognize Ukraine's nuclear status, since they agree with Kiev's arguments: The warheads represent an insurance policy against Moscow's encroaching on its independence.

Russian diplomats studying relations with Ukraine believe that the two countries are linked by special relations despite the clashes that are natural between the closest of partners. The main precondition for the favorable development of relations between the two countries is the course of economic reforms in Ukraine:

"It is not nuclear status but economic stabilization that can provide an effective guarantee of Ukraine's independence in the present-day world. Anyone who wants to help Ukraine should help it with reforms."

Yerin on Helping Ukraine Combat Religious Sect

LD0611181693 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1440 GMT 6 Nov 93

[By ITAR-TASS observer Vladimir Gondusov]

[Text] Moscow, 6 Nov—Russian Interior Minister Viktor Yerin has expressed certainty that his staff, in cooperation with their Ukrainian colleagues, will find a way out of the complicated situation that has developed around an action of a religious group of the so-called "White Brotherhood," which is taking place in Kiev. He said this today in an interview with the ITAR-TASS observer. "The Russian interior bodies have been instructed to start a search for Krivonogov, the leader of the sect. A warrant for his arrest has been issued," the minister said.

According to Yerin, law enforcement bodies in Russia were receiving continuous complaints from people whose children fell under the influence of the White Brotherhood. Each of these facts is being investigated. Constant exchanges of operational information with Ukrainian colleagues are taking place. There have been some indications that various booklets and leaflets of the White Brotherhood are being published in Russia. In this connection, urgent search is in progress in two Russian towns.

Such a clash of law enforcement bodies with a religious sect has happened for the first time, said the minister, and the lack of experience of counteraction in this sphere is making itself felt.

Defense Minister Grachev Begins Visit to China

LD0811060593 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0307 GMT 8 Nov 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Grigoriy Arslanov, Vladimir Oreshin]

[Text] Beijing, 8 Nov—Russian Defense Minister Army General Pavel Grachev arrived here today on an official visit. This visit reciprocates the visit to Moscow by the defense minister of the People's Republic of China last year, the minister told an ITAR-TASS correspondent at Beijing Airport. We intend to sign an agreement on military cooperation and a plan for links between Russia's armed forces and the Chinese People's Liberation Army (PLA) for 1994, Grachev said.

This is the Russian Federation defense minister's first visit to China. Over four days Pavel Grachev will conduct talks with the Chinese Army's new leadership and familiarize himself with life and military training in the PLA.

Border Cooperation Accord Concluded With China

LD0611104793 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0404 GMT 6 Nov 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Yevgeniya Lents]

[Text] Vladivostok, 6 Nov—Criminal elements smuggling contraband and carrying out thefts on the Russian-Chinese border will find themselves between a rock and a hard place from now on. Representatives of the Maritime Kray Internal Affairs Directorate and Chinese

bodies for security in society have concluded an agreement on putting things here in order.

According to this document, law and order bodies of contiguous territories will receive full support and assistance in seeking out law-breakers on both sides of the border. The appropriate services of both countries will prepare a universal directory of the most notorious criminals and, if necessary, will carry out joint operations to detain them.

Radio Urges DPRK To Allow Nuclear Inspections

SK0611002193 Moscow Radio Moscow in Korean 1200 GMT 4 Nov 93

[From "Today's World" Program]

[Text] The annual Security Consultative Meeting [SCM] to discuss the security issue on the Korean peninsula was held in Seoul in the presence of the ROK defense minister and the U.S. secretary of defense. The issue on international inspections of the DPRK's nuclear facilities was discussed during the SCM.

It looks as though the two sides have considered the DPRK's stance on the nuclear issue to some extent. For example, Pyongyang had refused to accept International Atomic Energy [IAEA] inspection under the pretext of the Team Spirit exercise, an annual joint military exercise. The DPRK leadership had branded the Team Spirit joint military exercise a preliminary stage of the war of aggression.

Regarding this issue, the two sides' defense ministers pointed out that the ROK and the United States are willing to give up the joint military exercise if Pyongyang accepts nuclear inspections.

Nevertheless, Pyongyang still adheres to its firm stance on the nuclear issue. For instance, the DPRK did not care when the UN General Assembly urged cooperation with the IAEA. In addition, Pyongyang is not interested in the assertion by the ROK and the U.S. defense ministers that the decision on the Team Spirit exercise depends on Pyongyang's nuclear program. Worse still, Pyongyang criticized the SCM held in Seoul, and did not show up for a meeting between the North and South scheduled for 4 November.

The deadlock will be broken only when the two sides make concessions to each other.

Pyongyang must reconsider its stance and duly accept inspections. This would be the most effective way for the settlement of the issue. Only then will the international community support Pyongyang.

DPRK Moscow Envoy Explains UN Resolution

SK0611154093 Moscow Radio Moscow in Korean 1000 GMT 6 Nov 93

[From the "Focus on Asia" program]

[Text] A news conference was granted to Russian reporters on 5 November at the DPRK Embassy in Moscow. Son Song-pil, DPRK ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary, led the news conference. He made clear the DPRK's position on the allegation of the UN General Assembly [UNGA], which summed up the yearly activities of the International Atomic Energy Agency [IAEA]. Our station reporter (Aleksey Prinin) was present at the news conference.

The DPRK ambassador mainly quoted a statement by the DPRK Foreign Ministry.

The statement by the Foreign Ministry considers the IAEA's activities to be a provocative agitation and a provocation maneuver by forces that are hostile to the DPRK.

Ambassador Son Song-pil went on to say:

[Begin Son recording] I want to elaborate on an attempt by some Western forces to resolve our country's nuclear issue by putting pressure, the unreasonableness of this attempt, and the South Korean authorities' reckless maneuvers over our nuclear issue.

Some Western European countries and some insidious elements have turned our nuclear issue into an international one and have insisted that this issue be resolved by putting pressure. This logic is unreasonable, of course.

However, based on this logic, they presented our issue to a general meeting of the IAEA in Vienna a while ago and had an unreasonable resolution adopted.

And, clauses concerning us were contained, unjustifiably, in a report on the IAEA's yearly activities, which the director general of the IAEA made to the 48th session of the UN General Assembly, and the so-called resolution was adopted there.

In the resolution adopted at 48th UN General Assembly, after deliberating the IAEA director general's report about the IAEA's annual activities, there are two clauses concerning us. [end recording]

While pointing out that South Korea has prevented the DPRK-U.S. talks concerning nuclear issue from taking place, Ambassador Son Song-pil cited the statement issued recently by the DPRK People's Armed Forces Ministry. The ambassador went on to say:

[Begin Son recording] I will talk more about the DPRK-U.S. talks. Two rounds of the DPRK-U.S. talks were held. A third round will be held. There are some differences of opinion between us and the United States over the third round of talks.

Now, the United States brings up the conditions that only when we return to the Nuclear Nonproliferation Treaty, receive the nuclear inspections by the IAEA, and hold North-South dialogue on denuclearization, can it hold the third round of talks. These are unilateral conditions. The United States has called only on us to implement our duty. The United States has said that,

after watching us implement the conditions, it will decide whether to hold the talks with us.

For the DPRK-U.S. talks to take place, there are tasks that we should conduct to resolve nuclear issues, and there are also tasks that the United States should conduct. As the United States has promised in the (?second) talks, it should not make nuclear threats to us. [end recording]

After DPRK Ambassador Son Song-pil said that the South Korean Government has recently discussed the issue to produce chemical weapons, he pointed out that the DPRK Foreign Ministry has obtained relevant intelligence.

[Begin Son recording] At present, the South Korean authorities have 10 plants to produce chemical weapons. They have stored 215,000 [as heard] chemical weapons. In addition to this, the U.S. troops in South Korea possess many nuclear and chemical weapons and have deployed them in South Korea. The U.S. troops deployed [words indistinct] chemical weapons in its South Korean areas of operations. These chemical weapons have been used to increase their actual combat strength during the Team Spirit exercises.

As we see, the South Korean authorities said they would take worthless military countermeasures under the pretext of the nuclear issue and are openly producing chemical weapons. If they, by so doing, bring on a nuclear cloud, a chemical weapon cloud, and a war cloud to our country, they will be held responsible for the aftermaths caused by their acts and will unavoidably be driven into a piteous destiny. [end recording]

Stand on Lockerbie, Libyan Debts Reiterated

LD0511205493 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1527 GMT 5 Nov 93

[By Diplomatic Correspondents Dmitriy Voskoboynikov, Igor Porshnev, Vitaliy Trubetskoy and others: from the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature]

[Text] Those suspected of having engineered the blast over Lockerbie must stand trial in accordance with Security Council resolutions. The lever of sanctions will be in effect till this happens, a spokesman for Russia's Foreign Ministry, Mikhail Demurin, said at Friday's briefing in Moscow.

According to him, Russia's attitude to terrorism is "explicit: there can be no concessions in combating this evil." "After the October rebellion, Russia is interested in this, perhaps even more than other countries," he noted.

As the diplomat said, "Russia agrees with those countries that believe that concrete sanctions should be carefully weighed in terms of consequences for the economies of the various nations." "It's natural that these, and other "technical" issues, should be coordinated on the basis of partnership, mutual trust and respect for each other's interests. We are confident that with this kind of approach to such procedures the Security Council will be able to quickly resolve all issues that entail no political differences. This fully relates to the Lockerbie case. This is what our stand has been like all the time when the Security Council was considering this problem," he said.

According to Demurin, the repayment of Libya's debts to Russia has nothing to do with the Lockerbie case. "There are Libya's commitments to pay its debts to us, and there are its commitments to the Security Council connected with the Lockerbie case. When we insist that Libya honor all its commitments, we uphold our interests and the stand taken by the world community," he said.

Chernomyrdin Continues Visit to EC Countries

Signs Declaration in Denmark

LD0511183193 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1053 GMT 5 Nov 93

[Text] Russia wants to become a full member of the European Community, Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin said at the end of his talks with his Danish counterpart Paul Nyrup Rasmussen in Copenhagen Thursday. The two men signed a declaration on the fundamentals of bilateral relations and agreements on investment promotion and protection and cooperation in education, science and culture.

Answering an INTERFAX question, Chernomyrdin explained that Russia understood that it can join the EC only in stages, through associated membership and a partnership and cooperation agreement.

"If our membership of the EC depended on Denmark, we would sign all the documents today," the Russian premier said.

The Danish premier promised support for negotiating a partnership and cooperation agreement between the Russian Federation and the European Community Commission.

Addresses Business Representatives

LD0511194993 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1743 GMT 5 Nov 93

[By ITAR-TASS special correspondent Ivan Ivanov]

[Text] Copenhagen, 5 Nov—An acceleration in Russia's movement toward a market economy and the creation of a genuinely democratic, law-based state with high living standards for the population is in the interests of both the West and the whole world community, Viktor Chernomyrdin, chairman of the Russian Federation Council of Ministers, stated at a meeting with representatives of Danish business circles this evening.

He noted that Russia at present does not need free aid but serious economic projects in strategic areas of the

reforms and genuine partnership which in the end will give returns and benefits to all participants in them.

At the same time the head of the Russian cabinet said that, despite the fact that "admittedly, there are no doubts as regards the West granting aid to Russia, real deeds are sometimes getting lost on the background of statements and promises." Of course, the fate of the reforms is being decided in Russia itself, and it relies on its own efforts, Chernomyrdin noted.

Stressing that on the eve of the 500th anniversary of establishing treaty relations between Russian and Denmark their bilateral relations "are on a rising trend," the head of the Russian government advocated expanding them further, giving them qualitatively new dimensions and bringing the Russian-Danish relations to a level of partnership. This concerns all spheres of cooperation—political, economic and military.

Viktor Chernomyrdin expressed gratitude to the Danish people for their unfailing support for the Russian reforms. He gave as an example Denmark's assistance in tackling the problem of providing housing for troops being returned to Russia and servicemen being discharged to the reserve. "The implementation of projects in this field is a tangible contribution to European cooperation and to the creation of a stable, calm situation in the Baltic region," the prime minister said, adding that he was impressed by the activeness of Danish business circles in the Russian market, especially in Kaliningrad Oblast and St. Petersburg.

After setting out the basic provisions and aims of the government program on "furthering the reforms and stabilizing the Russian economy," in accordance with which the Council of Ministers recently adopted its plan of action for 1994, Viktor Chernomyrdin urged Danish businessmen not to restrict themselves to the northwest of Russia alone, but to look for openings in new regions. "Danish business has opportunities to really consolidate in our market, which, although still not in very good order, does have prospects," he stressed.

Arrives in Vienna for Talks

LD0611210993 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1924 GMT 6 Nov 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Ivan Ivanov and Aleksandr Kuzmin]

[Text] Vienna November 6 TASS—Russian Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin arrived on an official visit to Austria today.

In the course of his visit, the head of the Russian Government will hold talks with Federal Chancellor of Austria Franz Vranitzky and other Austrian leaders. The two sides plan to sign documents on bilateral relations, including an agreement on trade and economic cooperation.

Viktor Chernomyrdin will lay wreaths to the monument to Soviet soldiers killed in combat operations for the liberation of Vienna.

The program of the Russian premier's stay in Austria also includes his meetings with representatives of business circles and visits to a number of Austrian industrial enterprises.

On Saturday evening Viktor Chernomyrdin is to make a trip to the city of Eisenstadt to meet with the leaders of the province of Burgenland.

Meets With Vranitzky on Ties

LD0811112893 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1002 GMT 8 Nov 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Ivan Ivanov and Aleksandr Kuzmin]

[Text] Vienna, 8 Nov—Viktor Chernomyrdin, chairman of the Russian Federation Council of Ministers, who is on the third day of his official visit there, had a meeting this morning with Austrian Federal Chancellor Franz Vranitzky. During the meeting the Russian prime minister conveyed to the chancellor a friendly message from President Boris Yeltsin and pointed out the importance of the preparation of a political document on the foundations of relations between Russia and Austria. The prime minister noted that such a document would without any doubt contribute to the strengthening of the political basis for bilateral relations.

Valentin Sergeyev, head of the Russian Government press service, informed ITAR-TASS correspondents that during the conversation Viktor Chernomyrdin expressed his gratitude to the Austrian leadership for its firm political and moral support during the difficult days for the fate of the Russian democracy, and talked about the priority tasks of the economic reform and the plans for 1994.

Discussing Russian-Austrian economic cooperation, Viktor Chernomyrdin noted that this form of cooperation today forms a decisive link in the traditionally friendly relations between the two countries. He also proposed that a joint Russian-Austrian intergovernmental commission on economic cooperation be set up on a new basis—switching the focus to working groups for specific projects.

The head of the Russian Government stressed the importance of Austria's more active involvement in investing in the Russian economy and of developing new forms of cooperation between our countries in the economic sphere, which would meet the realities which are taking shape between small and medium businesses, first and foremost.

In the course of the Russian-Austrian expanded talks which took place today, Russia expressed its aspiration to join the European economic space as a full member. A proposal was also voiced to set up a free trade zone

between Russia and the EC as an intermediary stage in resolving the issue of Russia's integration into the European economy.

Passes Yeltsin Message to Vranitzky

LD0811133693 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1040 GMT 8 Nov 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Ivan Ivanov and Aleksandr Kuzmin]

[Text] Vienna, 8 Nov—"Cooperation between Russia and Austria is noted for its stability, variety of forms, the spirit of partnership and mutual trust," says a friendly message from Russian President Boris Yeltsin to Austrian Federal Chancellor Franz Vranitzky conveyed today by Viktor Chernomyrdin, the chairman of the RF Council of Ministers, who is here on an official visit.

The document states that "not everything runs smoothly" in the economic sphere of relations between the two countries. Difficulties which are being experienced by Russia have a direct impact on our trade an economic ties, for example. The president expressed th hope that the visit of Russian Prime Minister V.S. Chernomyrdin to the Republic of Austria would allow to speed up the search for solutions to existing problems including the problem of our debt to Austria.

In view of the further advancement of the traditionally friendly relations between our states, the president's message says that "their climate and content in the future will largely be determined by the contractual and legal foundation with which we underpin them today. I propose therefore that we consider the possibility of concluding a political document on the foundations of relations between Russia and Austria, which would be a logical development of the State Treaty of 1955, without replacing it. We have similar documents—treaties or declarations—with many European countries, including neutral countries such as Finland, Switzerland, and Sweden."

"I believe that the interaction between Russia and Austria in building a new Europe and asserting the ideals of liberty and democracy on the continent could become even more diverse. Russia will remain ready to consider with complete good will the process of turning Vienna into a kind of "CSCE capital." It also seems that taking account of Vienna's traditional concern with humanitarian issues, and also Austria's increasing role as a link joining East and West, there are good prospects for cooperation between us within European structures on questions connected with the guaranteeing of human rights. In connection with this we cannot ignore the rights of the Russian-speaking population, in the Baltic countries for example, which continues to cause us great concern."

"I am certain, Mr. Federal Chancellor, that the spirit of good- neighborliness, partnership, and mutual cooperation will continue to determine the relations between our countries and peoples," Boris Yeltsin's message stresses.

Addresses Joint News Conference

LD0811142093 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1256 GMT 8 Nov 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Ivan Ivanov and Aleksandr Kuzmin]

[Text] Vienna, 8 Nov—The agreement between the Russian Federation and the Republic of Austria on trade and economic cooperation and the intergovernmental agreement on air communications, which were signed today within the framework of the Russian prime minister's official visit to Austria, "complete a stage of major and useful work to strengthen the legal foundation of Russian-Austrian interaction in the economic sphere."

This was how Viktor Chernomyrdin, chairman of the Russian Federation Council of Ministers, assessed the initial results of his visit to Austria at a joint news conference with Federal Chancellor Franz Vranitzky held today.

Having singled out in particular the agreement on trade and economic cooperation, which covers practically all spheres of economic interaction between the two states, he prime minister stressed that "it should give impetus to increase this interaction further." Viktor Chernomyrdin said that the next task is "to fill the signed documents with real content, and to turn our good intentions into concrete deeds." "I am convinced that here we can look into the future with optimism," he added.

In the words of the prime minister, during the talks held with the federal chancellor a wide range of economic cooperation issues were discussed, and we found mutual understanding on all of them.

Touching on the integration of Russia's economy into Europe, Franz Vranitzky told the journalists that, during the talks with Viktor Chernomyrdin, Austria's position was explained to him, namely that "Russia should become an equal partner of all the industrially developed countries of Europe." Having pointed out the importance of the agreements concluded today, the Austrian chancellor said that "in signing these agreements our intention was to lay the foundations for our future cooperation." R. Vranitzky also said that "matters concerning Russia's debt to Austria were sorted out" at the talks today. He spoke in favor of expanding industrial cooperation between the two countries, in particular, on projects as the production of automobile engines and steel converters.

Assessing the present situation in Russia, F. Vranitzky said that "political reforms cannot produce results without successful economic reforms. This is borne out by world and Austrian experience."

To a question from journalists about Russia's stance regarding the intention of several Eastern European countries and former republics of the USSR to join NATO, V. Chernomyrdin said: "The Russian Government is not going to impede anyone from joining any agreement or bloc."

Replying to a question from an ITAR-TASS correspondent on measures to support the press being planned by the Russian government, V. Chernomyrdin said that "the government will support the mass media by all measures." He said that a meeting with heads of the mass media is planned at which specific forms of support will be examined. At the same time, the prime minister stressed, support for the press before the elections should not be seen as an attempt to "buy" public opinion: "I am not the sort of person who would try to do that." He also stressed the importance of the press reflecting the various points of view that exist in society because, as the premier put it, this "helps, and that includes the government, to find the correct solutions to many problems".

Meets With Austrian President

LD0811150793 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1345 GMT 8 Nov 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Ivan Ivanov and Aleksandr Kuzmin]

[Text] Vienna, 8 Nov (ITAR-TASS)—Viktor Chernomyrdin, chairman of the Russian Federation Council of Ministers, who is here on an official visit, had a meeting this afternoon with Thomas Klestil, federal president of Austria, at Klestil's residence.

Valentin Sergeyev, head of the Russian Government's press service, told ITAR-TASS correspondents that during the talks Viktor Chernomyrdin drew special attention to the need to develop trade and economic cooperation, which is presently going through difficult times and is clearly lagging behind the high level of Russian-Austrian cooperation in the political sphere. The head of the Russian cabinet also stated that Russia regards Austria as a long-standing and promising partner in Europe, and is aware of its role as a link joining East and West.

After touching on CSCE issues in view of the fact that Vienna is one of this organization's centers of activity, Viktor Chernomyrdin said Russia intends to transform its delegation at the CSCE forum into a permanent mission. Speaking about the session of the CSCE Council which is to be held in Rome in three weeks time, the head of the Russian cabinet called for it to devote special attention to radically renewing the CSCE, which could play a decisive role in creating a truly Europe-wide order without blocs.

This morning Viktor Chernomyrdin visited the Vienna city hall, where he signed Vienna's "Gold Book."

This evening he will lay wreaths at the monument to the Soviet soldiers who died to liberate Austria, and at the memorial to victims of war and fascism.

Vienna Conference Held on Investment Prospects

PM0811115193 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 Nov 93 p 7

[Igor Melnikov report: "Nameless But...Useful Conference"]

[Text] Vienna, 2 Nov—It seems that the conference did not have an official name. In any case the Austrian newspapers and television gave it different names. I think that Vienna's DER STANDARD defined the essence of the meeting most accurately than most: The Russian Government's goal is to promote Western enterprises' investment and commercial activities in Russia. Fact is fact: There are many representatives of Western business circles who are now seriously prepared to study the climate for investment in our country.

The main protagonists of the meeting at Vienna's Mariott Hotel were Russian Deputy Prime Minister A. Shokhin, National Economy Academy Rector A. Aganbegyan, and State Investment Corporation Chairman Yu. Petrov. M. Campos, director general of UNIDO [United Nations Industrial Development Organization], expressed his opinion of the progress achieved in implementing investment plans within Russia.

The fate of foreign capital investments in the Russian economy is decided at various levels, none of which are secondary. It is no secret that it is possible to have an ideal facility in which to invest, to work up a competent and detailed scheme, and still nevertheless not succeed. The reason for failure is, as a rule, still that the path leading "from the seller" of the investment scheme to its "purchaser" is untried and easily cut. In other words, the absence of well developed information conduits is capable of sharply reducing the range of potential investors, if not completely annulling the efforts of experienced experts, consigning the most promising of schemes to oblivion. When I raised the question of providing information for schemes with A. Shokhin at the press conference, I referred to the modest experience of the WIRTSCHAFT-PRAVDA (ECONOMIC PRAVDA) digest which has been published in Vienna since last August and carries details of specific investment schemes of Russian enterprises which are backed by UNIDO experts and aimed directly at Western partners. Does the deputy prime minister support such development of investment programs at the "grass roots" level?

"Certainly," he answered and added that this experience should go hand in hand with the remaining measures. But what measures are these? For example, the activities of the new Russian Information Center for the Promotion of Foreign Investments, which is just getting established. The government intends to use Russian science and culture centers abroad for this purpose, having added to their functions one more component—cooperation in business.

One other participant in the press conference, State Investment Corporation Chairman Yu. Petrov, gave his opinion.

"I am in favor," he said, "of the contacts between our corporation and our new journal INVESTITSIYA V ROSSII [Investment in Russia] being as wide and varied as possible. The WIRTSCHAFT-PRAVDA digest will,

in my view, rank among those publications whose potential should be used in specific cases for a reasoned and fundamental resolution of the problem of investment, and to promote within European business circles expert and reliable information on the opportunities for investment in the Russian economy."

UN Official Holds Meetings on Aid for Georgia

LD0611122693 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1207 GMT 6 Nov 93

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Georgiy Shmelev]

[Text] Moscow November 6 TASS—The main result of the meetings with special representative of the U.N. Secretary-General Eduard Brunner, held here on November 5 and 6, is that the U.N. and Russia are unanimous in their opinion that effective and urgent measures are needed for settling the Georgian-Abkhazian conflict, Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Boris Pastukhov told ITAR-TASS immediately after the end of working consultations at the Foreign Ministry.

"Both Brunner and the two sides in general realise the need for the U.N. and Russia to pool efforts in settling the conflict," Pastukhov stressed. The consultations, which he described as useful, made it possible for the two sides to set forth their understanding of the problem and helped bring their stands closer together. It was pointed out that there exist real possibilities to achieve the settlement of the conflict.

During the talks, held at the Foreign Ministry, the sides discussed the idea of holding a special meeting of the conflicting parties under the U.N. aegis and with Russia's mediation, which could take place in Geneva later this month.

Yeltsin, Finland's Koivisto Discuss Elections

LD0811154693 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1225 GMT 8 Nov 93

[Text] Moscow, 8 Nov (ITAR-TASS)—Russian President Boris Yeltsin had a telephone conversation today with Finnish President Mauno Koivisto at the latter's initiative. The press service of the head of state explained that bilateral relations were discussed. The Russian president told Mauno Koivisto about the preparations for the elections to the Federal Assembly and pointed out that foreign observers, including from Finland, will have the necessary conditions to carry out normal work.

Western 'Isolationism' on Russia Criticized

PM0811105193 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 5 Nov 93 p 3

[Pavel Bogomolov "Correspondent Comments": "Who Needs 'Cordon Sanitaire'"]

[Text] London—During his visit to London, Russian Foreign Minister A. Kozyrev described as "extreme isolationists" those who favor reducing Western interest in the changes in Russia and cobbling together a new "sterile civilized" Europe outside the CIS. Where have these isolationists come from and why do they suddenly want to shut themselves off from Moscow if not with an "iron curtain," then at any rate with definite bloc or even purely psychological barriers?

The answer presents no particular difficulty. A considerable proportion of NATO ruling circles have now "gone down" with isolationism. Those which are really taken aback and in a number of cases simply alarmed by the means and methods that the Kremlin needed to use to suppress its parliamentary opponents. The fear that B. Yeltsin is now the hostage of Army and other generals has become a mania in the West. In dissolving the Supreme Soviet and then using flagrant military force against it, the presidential camp sowed the seeds of ferment in the minds of its foreign allies, and it is extremely possible that it will live to regret it.

"During the spring Vancouver summit meeting when B. Clinton precipitated the Russian leader's action by saying 'win victory, Boris, win victory,' he could not have foreseen that force would be needed to win victory," the influential TIMES complained in retrospect. But that is so to speak the view at the top. Here is what an ordinary colleague from a London journalist pool, not a politician, said to me recently: "If tanks were needed to curb the White House, one can quite easily imagine one armed vehicle outside every oblast soviet and even one military motorcyle outside the disbanded, but still mutinous, village soviets. And 'local wars' are still blazing on your borders. The conclusion is clear: There will be no substantial cuts in spending on security in the Russian Federation. At any rate in the coming months."

We will forgive the journalist for being somewhat hasty with his generalizations. But facts are facts: Henceforth there are few people abroad who believe in the purely peaceful purpose of the aid that the Kremlin is allocated from time to time by governments and international financial organizations. However much people in Moscow may advertise the current staff cuts in the "power ministries," Western bankers see something quite different: Reinforced patrols in cities and on the highways, columns of OMON [Special Purpose Militia Detachment] personnel bristling with shields, and armored personnel carriers in areas of regional conflict and interethnic clashes...

Those who provide credit for the democratization of yesterday's "evil empire" do not care that many of Russia's defense efforts are quite legitimate and brought about by geopolitical conditions. The specter of the "Russian bear" is easing East European states' forced march toward acquiring full-fledged NATO membership. And the aim of that, no matter how the organizers may disguise it, is supremely clear: To add their defense potentials to the Atlantic melting pot and avail themselves of it together. And, most importantly, draw a new line of confrontation on the map of Europe between the "harmonious West"

and the "wild unpredictable East" from the Baltic to the Carpathian Mountains. The upshot is that half the continent, cut off by a "cordon sanitaire," would indeed become a gigantic isolation unit.

But regrettably, the main isolationist tune is not being called on the banks of the Thames or the Seine. Washington, far-removed as it is from the chronic European ailments, is increasingly persistently providing the score. And this score contains more and more notes of arrogant disdain for Russia's well-founded fears. If the East Europeans have not yet become full-fledged members of the North Atlantic alliance, U.S. Secretary of Defense L. Aspin hinted recently, that is not all down to Moscow...

The isolationists evidently have a very short and ungrateful memory. Yesterday, they thought it enough for Soviet troops to be withdrawn from East Europe. Yet tomorrow there will be a temptation to isolate one CIS state from another. And I severely doubt that Moscow will be able to do anything about it.

Former KGB Official Describes UK Questioning

PM0811115393 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 6 Nov 93 First Edition p 2

[Report by Aleksandr Krivopalov: "Why Scotland Yard Arrested Former KGB General; Oleg Kalugin Tells IZVESTIYA of His Talk with British Investigators"]

[Text] London—"I was searched at the police station," Oleg Kalugin says. "It was a full search. They turned out my pockets. Undressed me until I was almost naked. Then they took me to a cell. Police Superintendent Christopher Baird appeared half an hour later:

"'We are charging you with being involved in the plot to murder Mr. Georgi Markov.'

"I said that I would not talk with him. I demanded to be released immediately and to meet immediately with Russian Embassy representatives.

"The next morning the consul general with a staffer arrived at the station. An official talk began. It must be said that the BBC immediately provided me with a lawyer. [as published]

"Now the superintendent said: 'I am not charging you, but I must ask you about statements you made earlier from which it follows that you took part in the murder plot.'

"I immediately noted that I wanted to make an official statement myself. The plot to murder Georgi Markov was organized on instructions from former Bulgarian Communist Party General Secretary Todor Zhivkov. He gave the relevant orders to his internal affairs ministry and security organs. They bear full responsibility for everything they did: planning, preparation, and the murder of a man. The role of the Soviet KGB at the time was only to render technical assistance on the plane of supplying the weapon, which the Bulgarians did not have, and instructions on how to use it. I personally took no part in the planning, the discussion, or the issue of the weapon, because I did not have it. There were people in the technical service who did that.

"'What are you charging me with? Knowing something? Yes, I do know. My position at the time let me know. But you cannot put me in prison for what I know. I did not take one step to make this plot reality.'

"'The press mentioned that you attended some conference with Andropov when Georgi Markov was discussed.'

"'I was present. But no one asked me about anything, and I did not have to make any answer. When we went to Yasenevo, to our headquarters, Kryuchkov invited one of my workers engaged in counterintelligence—Golubev—and said: "I will now telephone the operational-technical directorate and ask them to receive you." And that was all. From then on Golubev did it. Since the matter did not concern me I never became involved in it."

"In reality there was no correspondence on the subject between Moscow and Sofia," the former KGB general continued. "Such subjects are not put down on paper at all—they are only discussed verbally. I learned the whole story after Markov had been killed, from Western press reports. And later Bulgarians came to Moscow and described their operation."

"In 1992, when you were in Bulgaria, was the Markov affair also discussed?"

"Yes, I went there at the invitation of President Zhelyu Zhelev—as his personal guest. He welcomed me and asked: Help the Bulgarian justice organs to investigate what happened to Markov, since we cannot yet find any real documents. You were the first to describe it and perhaps you can help us sort it out. I spent two or three days in session with the Bulgarian prosecutor's office. I told them all I knew. The Soviet part—supplying the weapon—was of absolutely now interest to them. It was something else they needed: Which Bulgarians knew of the operation?

"During my interrogation at the London police station, I was shown the protocols of those talks—they had been passed on from Sofia to the British. Yes, I said, looking at the papers, that is all correct. There were several distortions, it is true. I said, for instance: 'We did such and such.' 'We' was the KGB, not me personally.

"And then, as it emerged, there came the decisive point in the interrogation. Now, they said to me, let us listen to a tape of your talk with a British journalist. I remember that sometime in the spring I had talked with a correspondent from THE MAIL ON SUNDAY. They played the tape. 'Is that your voice?' 'Yes.' 'Have you read the article itself?' 'No.' And then the superintendent opened a copy of THE MAIL ON SUNDAY. I saw a photograph of myself and a headline in inverted commas: 'I Organized Georgi Markov Murder.'

"The author is simply a scoundrel. Is the headline really linked to the text? Where did I mention my role as

'organizer?' There is nothing of this anywhere and in general what sane person would state publicly that he had organized a murder? You would have to e suicidal or mad. Here the police chief said: 'You can see, Mr. Kalugin, you should be very careful when dealing with the British press.' Thank you for the advice."

Oleg Kalugin believes that he was arrested to prevent the former KGB general's participation in the trail of Michael Smith, for the defense. Smith's case is being investigated in a London court. This British engineer is charged with being a Soviet spy for many years.

"I spoke to the superintendent again: Is the MAIL ON SUNDAY article not all this is about?

"He said in reply: 'I swear on my honor as an officer, that is all this is about. Imagine the situation: You state in the press that you are a murderer or organizer of a murder and then you come to Britain. People have the right to ask: What do the British police think?'

"But could they not simply have invited me to the police station? I would have come myself and told them everything, as I have done now. Why was I humiliated? Were they trying to intimidate me? But I am not a man to give in to intimidation. That is not the way to behave with Russians.

"The interrogation lasted from 1000 hours to 1800 hours with two intervals. Eventually the superintendent said he had to think. I replied: '"Surely it is all clear?' 'I have to think.' And I was taken back to my cell. He spent about 20 minutes deciding on something. Then I was finally summoned to him. Baird then said: 'I have no questions. I am not charging you with anything.' 'That means I am completely free?' 'No, because I am not the last instance. I must agree on this question and confirm it with the government's top lawyers.'"

Oleg Kalugin was released from the police station, and he went back to his hotel. On Wednesday he was told, first over the telephone and later in a faxed message, that it was all over. No charges were being brought against him.

I asked Oleg Kalugin, knowing that he had read Lord Bethell's article in THE EVENING STANDARD, reprinted in IZVESTIYA on Friday, whether his question in the House of Lords could have played a part in the story.

"It is entirely possible. The police were in a position in which they had to defend themselves and show that they were taking the necessary actions. What motivated Bethell is a mystery to me. Incidentally, he distorted the facts. In particular in Moscow it was he who sought a meeting with me, not the other way round. I had no interest in him. Bethell asked whether I (at the time I was still a people's deputy) could help him get Gordiyevskiy's family out of Russia to Britain, by legal means, naturally. I said I could not do it. Gordiyevskiy is a spy and a traitor, and I will not get involved in the matter, although I consider it wrong to keep his family as hostages—they are innocent. He expressed his understanding. Then we spoke of something else. The lord asked me about my book. But I had absolutely no need of his help. I have my own literary agent in Britain. Incidentally, the book will be published soon."

On Saturday, finally freed of the need to talk with the Scotland Yard investigators, Oleg Kalugin returns to Moscow.

'Substantial Progress' in EC Membership Talks

LD0511223993 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 2023 GMT 5 Nov 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Shashkov]

[Text] Brussels November 5 TASS—A regular round of talks on the conclusion of an agreement on partnership and cooperation between the European Community and Russia ended at the EC headquarters here on Friday.

A substantial progress was made during the latest rounds of the negotiations in coordinating approaches to the remaining outstanding issues, according to Russian delegation sources.

The headway was reflected by a decision taken by the Commission of the European Communities (CEC) to recommend the EC Council to introduce amendments to the mandate given to it for the conduct of negotiations with Russia.

The CEC suggests abandoning the approach to Russia as country with a state-managed economic system and moves that Russia be viewed as country with a transitional economy.

It is also suggested that a date be fixed for the start of consultations in several years' time on matters aimed at establishing a free trade zone. The recommendations will be brought up for consideration at an EC Council session on November 8-9.

The sides succeeded in reaching basic mutual understanding on most orientations, Russian chief delegate Kirill Ivanov, first deputy chairman of the Russian Agency for International Cooperation and Development, told ITAR-TASS.

Ivanov emphasised that the provisions of a draft new mandate accorded with Russia's positions. "If the CEC proposal is confirmed by the EC Council, it will be much easier to move ahead, and we shall be able to set about drawing up the text of a future agreement," he said.

1994 Program for Western Aid Agreed Upon

LD0511224793 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1943 GMT 5 Nov 93

[By ITAR-TASS diplomatic correspondent Vladimir Taranov]

[Text] Moscow November 5 TASS—"Germany and other EC countries are interested in securing that Western assistance to Russia is purpose-oriented, and has specific addresses," Walter Kittel, German Government commissioner in charge of consultations in Eastern Europe, told a press conference here on Friday at the close of his official visit.

Western countries want to share with the Russian Government their years-long experience in transition to a market economy. To begin with, it is essential to set up appropriate institutions in Russia to distribute and coordinate incoming assistance. The main thing now is the quality of joint programmes, not their number, Kittel pointed out.

A 1994 programme of basic orientations for Western technical assistance to Russia was agreed upon during the visit and meetings with Russian Government representatives, Kittel said.

The programme envisages as follows: Consulting for the Russian Government, assistance to small and medium-sized businesses to take a place on the market, legal and other consulting for individual regions of Russia, etc.

This programme is only the first step in EC countries' cooperation with Russia, the German Government commissioner pointed out, making it clear that Germany does not impose its way of transition to a market upon Russia.

The main purpose is to coordinate work with the Russian Government in effecting economic reforms with due regard for Russia's specific conditions, he said.

Kittel's opinion is that political stability in Russia, which will make it possible to mobilise internal reserves and render Western assistance effective is one of major conditions for a transition to a market-style economy.

Foreign Ministry Official on COCOM Rules

LD0511210093 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1527 GMT 5 Nov 93

[By diplomatic correspondents Dmitriy Vosboynikov, Igor Porshnev, Vitaliy Trubetskoy, and others; from the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature]

[Text] As [Foreign Ministry spokesman Mikhail] Demurin said in answer to a question from Interfax's correspondent, Moscow proceeds from the assumption that, since Russia has met all conditions advanced by the Coordinating Committee of East-West Trade Policy (COCOM), members of that organization must begin to remove Russia from COCOM's restrictive lists in practical terms. He said he hopes that "COCOM's discriminatory restrictions concerning Russia will be lifted in the next few months."

"In addition to lifting COCOM restrictions, it would be logical to raise the issue of liquidating that organization which was set up as an instrument of the Cold War," Demurin noted. "We learned with satisfaction that the Western countries are actively discussing this issue. We are interested in the idea of forming, instead of COCOM, another organization that would control the exports of dual-purpose technologies and goods," Demurin said.

"Russia is interested in joining such an organization, when it is formed, as an equal member," he noted. "The Russian Federation is a big producer and exporter of dual-purpose materials and technologies. To exclude Russia from its membership would not be beneficial to the future organization," the diplomat said.

Poor Prospects in World Space Market Examined

PM0811105993 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 4 Nov 93 First Edition p 3

[Yuriy Konorov article: "What Have We Brought to the Space Market"]

[Text] Having signed the agreement on Russian-U.S. space exploration cooperation in Washington this fall, Russia is trying to find room in the marketplace alongside leading space powers.

What does Russia intend to trade in? To find out we should first consider what the space market generally consists of. First of all there is cooperation in the nonmilitary space sphere: interplanetary stations, rocket technologies. Second, there are communications satellites in geostationary orbit, so-called heavy satellites filled with complex electronics, and space-launch vehicles to launch them. Third, there are light communications satellites in low near-Earth orbits and the appropriate rockets for them. Fourth, there is the necessary ground equipment: tracking stations and suchlike. Fifth, there is the entire service complex associated with work in interplanetary stations: the cultivation of crystals, of especially pure metals and substances, and so on.

Thus, Russia does not, sad to say, have competitive products in many of the market sectors listed. In particular, we do not and will not have any decent ground equipment for approximately 15 years. We have accumulated fairly good experience of activity regarding the creation of unique substances and the performance of experiments in space but, because of strong resistance from producers of similar goods in ground conditions, this market has not yet been formed.

We have quite a good record in the sphere of launching light communications satellites. We could earn reasonable money for them, despite their relative cheapness (approximately 3-5 million [currency unspecified] per satellite). However, this market will be formed only some time toward 2000. The restrictions of the International Missile Technology Control Regime do not allow Russia to trade in rocket technologies.

Consequently we are left with a place in the marketplace where trading in heavy communications satellites goes

on. But it is precisely these satellites that Russia lacks. There are only the excellent "Proton" rockets to launch them. So it turns out that all we have brought to the market is great hopes.

Can the situation be rectified and what must be done? Undoubtedly, it is necessary to find funds to create our own heavy satellites. At least $2 billion will be required for this. A large sum but, if desired, it can be collected by pooling all the meager earnings from the space business. It should not be forgotten that our own second-generation station could also repay the money now being spent with interest in the future. But for this to happen our state s foreign economic policy must right now be aimed at overcoming existing barriers which block entry to the world space market. Finally, we should be thinking right now about how to carve a niche in the light satellite marketplace.

But at the moment we are completely and utterly dependent on U.S. partners. Even the treaties being worked out with Canada, whose aim is to jointly develop heavy satellites, are not very promising because key components will again come from the United States, and consequently their use will be regulated by the notorious COCOM [Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Export Controls] and U.S. national legislation.

Third World countries' interest in Russia as a space power could to some extent now weaken the pull of the "economic dog lead." There is an opportunity to maintain good relations with India and establish them with Brazil. And to aid Australia in constructing a cosmodrome. This in no way means that Russia should not be friends with "White Houses." But for the time being we are forced to carry out satellite launches while looking over our shoulder at the self-appointed judge and jury across the ocean.

U.S., Russian Groups Unite To Oppose Yeltsin

PM0811112893 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 Nov 93 First Edition p 2

[Andrey Kamorin report: "U.S. and Russian Young Marxists Unite"]

[Text] Organizations that are amazingly similar both in their views, tasks, and social base, and in the extent of their hostility toward President Yeltsin, have emerged in Russia and the United States.

The Movement in Defense of Democracy and Human Rights in Russia unites opposition intellectuals and certain trade union figures. The American Committee for Democracy and Human Rights in Russia has several dozen members, including Robert Daniels, the well-known Soviet specialist, and Paul Robeson Jr., son of the famous singer. Both groups consider what happened in September-October to have been a coup—"the shoots of Russian democracy were trampled in the blood of the innocent and the guilty."

Both groups are small and do not have any funds to speak of. Two representatives of the American committee (university lecturers Elizabeth Bowman and Robert Stone) have traveled to Moscow at their own expense and are using as their bridgehead an apartment belonging to a Russian soulmate—Professor Aleksandr Buzgalin of Moscow State University, former leader of the Marxist platform within the CPSU.

Mrs. Bowman passionately defends the indisputable thesis that democracy is incompatible with the dissolving of parliament and the banning of opposition parties and newspapers. Asked what the state should do in the face of exceptional circumstances that threaten to pitch the country into civil war, she merely remarked that it is not for Americans to be telling the Russians how to solve their domestic problems.

The Movement in Defense of Democracy and Human Rights in Russia intends to launch its own social investigation into the October events in Moscow and is demanding that the president reveal the true figures on the number of people killed.

Both groups have adopted a statement condemning the procedure for elections to the new parliament as undemocratic. At the same time, Professor Buzgalin said that some of the movement's activists intend to put their own names forward.

The movement also intends to fight the practice of "bans on holding office" which, in its organizers' opinion, is starting to spread in Russian state institutions.

Both groups consider the ban on rallies and demonstrations in Moscow 7 November to be a provocation aimed at launching further reprisals against the opposition. Elizabeth Bowman and Robert Stone are setting up in Moscow and St. Petersburg a network of informers drawn from among expatriates—mainly students and journalists—so as to respond swiftly to cases of infringements of civil rights by launching an international solidarity campaign.

Russo-American Entrepreneurship Fund Set Up

LD0611110393 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 2355 GMT 5 Nov 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Moscow, 6 Nov—A news conference was held on 5 November on the founding of the Russo-American Entrepreneurship Fund. It was attended by Anatoliy Chubays, chairman of the Russian State Committee for the Management of State Property; U.S. Ambassador Thomas Pickering; and Gerald Corrigan, president of the fund. Its creation is an implementation of the decisions of the Tokyo meeting of the heads of the world's seven industrially developed countries. It was also discussed at the Russian and U.S. presidents' meeting in Vancouver. The fund's main aim is to invest in small and medium-sized privatized enterprises and to provide

them with credit. It will be financed from U.S. Government grants totaling $340 million.

Those attending the news conference stressed that the fund was a non-state, non-commercial organization. Money passing through the fund has no connection whatsoever with interstate debt. It will independently decide where to invest money. Profits will be reinvested in the Russian economy. Since it is a risky enterprise, in which there is no guarantee of success, the fund will try to diversify its activities as much as possible.

The Russo-American Entrepreneurship Fund is shortly to open two offices in Russia—in Moscow and in one of the towns in the Far East. The implementation of investment programs will start in the first few months of 1994.

Gerald Corrigan emphasized that the Russian members of the directors' council would be appointed toward the end of this year. On the American side, it already includes representatives from leading American companies.

Turning to the participation of foreign investors in Russian privatization, A. Chubays pointed out that it could not yet be regarded as satisfactory. He thinks that this is to be explained not only by the political instability in Russia, but also by purely economic factors: primarily by the absence of the developed infrastructure of a financial market. In Chubays's view, the founding of the Russo-American Entrepreneurship Fund will mark a step toward the creation of such an infrastructure.

Election Issues

Yeltsin Predicted To Retain Presidency Until 1996

MK0511175093 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 5 Nov 93 p 1

[Vera Kuznetsova report under the "Constitution" rubric: "Yeltsin Will Apparently Reserve the Presidency for Himself Until 1996"]

[Text] The transitional provisions (paragraph 3) of the draft constitution of 2 November say: "The Russian Federation President (...) shall exercise the powers provided for in the Constitution from the day it enters into force until the end of the term for which he was elected." That is to say, until 1996.

Of course, two more conditions should be met first. First: unless the president, who reserved the last say on the draft text for himself, makes amendments to paragraph 3 of the transitional provisions. According to information from presidential circles, he does not intend to change anything in that paragraph. This was also confirmed by a phrase Yeltsin once said to John Major to the effect that he has had enough of seeking reelection (as for the other presidential amendments, he will make them by week's end, and on Monday he will sign the draft constitution to "the press." Apparently, Yeltsin will extend the Federal Assembly's tenure from two to four years once again.)

The second condition for Yeltsin's safe survival as president is the approval of the constitution by referendum on 12 December. There are few doubts as to this, but still...

If the answer is "yes," Yeltsin, who has repeatedly stated that to his mind a referendum is the most democratic institution, may talk about his third "election-endorsement." In this event his references to the Federal Assembly's decision will be deemed to be out of force.

In another development, yesterday the working group on finalizing the draft constitution (Filatov, Shakhray, Stepanov, Nikolayev, Luzhkov, Belyakov) completed the formalization of the compromise they reached. Added to the draft were: passages on the equality of the components, on republican citizenship, and also a number of provisions from the Federation Treaty. As in the previous draft, the treaty itself was left outside the constitution, as was the term of the republics' sovereignty.

Yeltsin Speaks to Mass Media Chiefs 6 Nov

LD0611124893 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1100 GMT 6 Nov 93

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] Today, on the threshold of the election campaign, Russian President Boris Yeltsin had a meeting with mass media chiefs. They discussed not only problems connected with the parliamentary elections but also the difficulties presently being encountered by the editorial boards of various news media. Other aspects of Russian social and political life were also touched upon. [Video shows Yeltsin being welcomed and greeted by media chiefs and then Yeltsin seated at their meeting addressing them.]

[Begin Yeltsin recording] I am aware of the situation in the mass media, especially the difficult position of the periodical press. You know that the possibilities of the country are limited at present. The Russian mass media have, of course, in recent years been undergoing three qualitative changes. During the first stage up to 1990, there was the sharp increase in the print-runs of democratic publications and an upsurge of interest in political television and radio programs, and it was then that the first law on the press was drawn up. During the second stage, there were the price increases for newsprint, printing, and communications, society's weariness with politics, and a drop in print-runs and interest in specialized publications, and a Russian law was even adopted on the mass media.

The present stage is characterised by rocketing prices for everything, the massive loss of the general reading public, changing forms of ownership and transition to the market. Several thousand periodicals have been registered in Russia. Most of them are now bankrupt or in a deep financial crisis. The trust in the written word and the opinions of journalists is diminishing. The notions of media's independence is being devalued. The notion of pluralism of the media needs deeper understanding. We have many different periodicals but very few quality ones. The media plays a special role in the election campaign and preparations for the referendum. It is in our interest that it should be constructive and facilitate the development of democracy. You know about the documents in regards to the press that were adopted lately... [pauses] For example: why all these attacks on Grachev? I have an impression that this was a deliberate action, purchased, so to speak, paid for, and so, all hell has broken loose. There is nothing there. He is a strong minister, has been working, is working, and will continue to work. And now his name is being mixed with dirt, and so is mine. [end recording]

Opposed to Presidential Elections in 94

LD0611114993 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1130 GMT 6 Nov 93

[Text] Boris Yeltsin is opposed to new elections for the Russian president in June next year. He made this statement at a meeting with media leaders.

More on Yeltsin Address

LD0611153093 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1200 GMT 6 Nov 93

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] The work of the mass media undoubtedly now exerts an increasing influence on whether there is stability or instability in society. Some points were probably sorted out today. The Russian president had a meeting with mass media editors in chief.

[Correspondent Sergey Suntsov] Considerable attention at the meeting was paid to problems concerning the mass media. Most publications are in a deep financial crisis. Boris Yeltsin called on the publication chiefs to attempt together to find a solution to the situation with minimum losses. The president expressed his conviction that the press and the authorities are overcoming the enemy syndrome. An important line—an objective, sharp, and critical analysis of decisions in action—is being mapped out now. Concerning the election campaign that is now beginning, Boris Yeltsin expressed the wish that working with the mass media would become for candidates to the Federal Assembly a stimulus for their professional and cultural growth. At the same time, the president reacted sharply to the negative trends in the mass media—the decline in the standards of publications and artistic and educational broadcasts and the appearance of low-grade commercial programs.

[Begin Yeltsin recording] The corrupt character of both individual journalists and whole channels is not concealed. Hidden advertizing is scarcely veiled, and at the same time, their activities are being frankly hushed up and treated so as to benefit individual political forces and commercial groups. The same applies to press publications.

For example, why have there been all these attacks on Grachev? I have the impression that this was a deliberate action, which was purchased, so to speak, and paid for. Yet there is nothing in it. He is a strong minister, who has been working and will continue to work. And now his name is being mixed with dirt, and so is mine. [A yego pryamo smeshali, nu, I menya zaodno.] It is being said that I am a dictator and that he is carrying out the will of a dictator. [end recording]

[Suntsov] Afterward, agency, newspaper, and television channel chiefs spoke.

[Presenter] Additional information about the meeting continues to come in. We have learned of a sensational piece of news, which has been confirmed by Interfax and TASS. Boris Yeltsin spoke against new presidential elections in June next year and in favor of carrying out his duties until 1996. This statement was made by the Russian leader at his meeting today with the editors in chief of the leading mass media. It is not for nothing that people say that the president makes surprise moves. Only this morning Sergey Filatov, head of the president's administration, told an Interfax correspondent that Boris Yeltsin was morally entitled to rescind his decree on pre-term elections for the head of state on 12 June next year. However, Filatov said, the president would not do so.

Comments on Media Preparations

LD0611183493 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1648 GMT 6 Nov 93

[Text] Moscow November 6 TASS—President Boris Yeltsin met on Saturday with mass media leaders in Moscow to discuss the preparations for the upcoming parliamentary elections in December and other aspects of social and political life in Russia.

The president said he is aware of the difficult situation in the Russian press, but added that the country's possibilities are limited. Over the last few years the Russian mass media have gone through three transformations. The first stage—before 1990—was marked by the sharp increase in the number of democratic publications and the skyrocketing interest in political television and radio programmes. The first law on the press was created at that time.

The second stage brought soaring prices of paper, publishing and communications, political fatigue in society, the drop in the circulation and the growing interest in specialised editions. At that time appeared the Russian law on the mass media.

The current stage is the sweeping price increases in all spheres and the loss of the mass reader. The situation is critical, the president noted, but the fourth stage is about to set in. It will be connected with the change in the form of ownership and transfer to a market economy, he said.

Several thousand publications have been registered in Russia. The majority of them are bankrupts or are in a deep financial crisis caused by the discrepancies in forms of ownership when the editorial boards are free and independent but their material basis belongs to the state. Specialists say that if no measures are taken, the circulation of national newspapers will drop to 30 per cent of the 1991 level, regional—15 per cent, the president warned.

He called for finding a political line which would not compound the situation in the mass media but will help them pass through this difficult period with minimum losses and capitalise on the positive experience they have gained. Yeltsin urged journalists to take an active part in working out such a line.

The Russian leader stressed that he is "categorically against monopoly in the mass media" whatever form it may acquire—political, financial or ideological. "There have been attempts to establish such monopoly. You should help fight them. I see allies in you in this fight," Yeltsin noted.

Speaking about the state ideology, Yeltsin replied "we lived with it for long enough to see and understand through our own experience what it is like. I hope you will agree that we should not go back to that again." But "if to speak about ideology, in broader sense, as moral

norms and cultural values accumulated by human experience, even christian commandments, I am convinced that we should not reject them," Yeltsin said.

The president pointed out that there is no democracy without the opposition press, but added that "all press, including opposition, all mass media should act within the framework of law."

The president expressed the hope that the press and power will gradually work out normal and healthy relations and overcome the enemy syndrome.

"I have doubts about the idea of strengthening presidential or parliamentary publications which would work for a particular body of power or a politician. But equally doubtful is the opposite. There should be neither pro-presidential, nor pro-parliamentary publications. We need a professional, objective, sharp and critical analysis of decisions and actions to the point," Yeltsin said.

He expressed concern about the waning trust in the printed word in society and the devaluation of the concept of independence of the mass media. "The concept of pluralism in the mass media requires more thorough understanding. We have many various publications, but there are only a few which provide quality," Yeltsin said.

The president paid much attention to the preparations for the elections to the Federal Assembly scheduled for December 12. He stressed that the mass media should play a special role in the election campaign and preparations for the referendum on the draft constitution. "We are interested that it would be constructive and democracy promoting," he said.

Yeltsin recalled that several documents have been adopted lately to this effect, primarily the decree "on information guarantees for the participants in the 1993 election campaign" and the resolution by the Central Electoral Commission "on the procedure for using the mass media for election campaigning."

A court of information arbitration has been set up which consists exclusively of professionals—journalists and lawyers. They are not involved in politics and have already begun working to explain these provisions and settle arising disputes.

"The quality, the ethical standard, if you wish, of the election campaign will largely depend on the press. Let the work with the mass media become a sort of a preparatory class of parliamentary ethics for the candidates. Set them a worthy plank, a high standard. Help them feel the need in their professional, cultural and ethical growth. This is in your power and you can do this," Yeltsin said.

The question of ethics will remain vital after the election campaign as well, the president continued. He expressed concern about the outflow of skilled professionals from state television to various commercial and advertising structures. Yeltsin emphasised that the number of feature, enlightening and publicistic programmes is decreasing at a critical rate. At the same time more and more low-standard commercial programmes appear on television. He said.

"The corruption of separate journalists and whole programmes is no longer concealed. Covert commercials appear almost openly. They either openly hush up the activity of some political or commercial groups or present it in a favourable light for them," the president stressed.

The same is happening in the press. "The engagement of journalists and editors can be explained by their miserable honorariums. But still I cannot consider the press free if for covert commercials, the desirable presentation of a party line or, on the contrary, hushing up criticism, journalists receive sums which sometimes exceed their annual pay," Yeltsin concluded.

Kozyrev Supports Yeltsin's Decision

LD0611153593 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1427 GMT 6 Nov 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Georgiy Shmelev]

[Text] Moscow, 6 Nov—"I have always supported the idea that the country should try to shake off the 70-year long period of the 'Soviet shock-working tactics' and move toward a normal stable existence although, naturally, many substantial problems will remain," Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev stated. "This is why I believe that the legally elected Russian president should be given an opportunity to complete his duties and create a new order in the country, a new, stable life".

Answering a question from the ITAR-TASS correspondent on his return to Moscow after a working visit to Ukraine, the minister stressed that "there is a need to set a precedent. The popularly elected president, whose mandate was again confirmed at the referendum, is the best any president can have in any country. We should put an end to this chaos, arbitrariness, and proposals for the two or three-year long intervals between elections."

Chernomyrdin Supports Yeltsin

LD0711185893 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1735 GMT 7 Nov 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Ivan Ivanov, Aleksandr Kuzmin]

[Text] Vienna, 7 November—Valentin Sergeyev, head of the press service of the Russian Government, today conveyed to ITAR-TASS correspondents the following statement by Viktor Chernomyrdin, head of the Russian Government, who is in Austria on an official visit:

"I consider the president's intention to continue working until the term of his legal authorities expires to be entirely correct. This is the position of a highly worthy

and responsible person, who is conscious of his state duty before the country and every citizen. Boris Yeltsin has linked his own future with the future of Russia; he enjoys the trust of the people and is striving to justify that trust.

"The government believes that its aim is to assist the president through practical measures to fulfill his historic mission of political and economic reforms. They are based on the program of the government's actions, approved by the president and submitted in a finalized and corrected version to the sitting of the Russian Council of Ministers on 2 November.

"The first measures implemented in accordance with the president's and government's program have shown that to stabilize the economy is a complex task, but not infeasible. This gives the government and all bodies of executive power confidence and a desire to act decisively and boldly.

"I also share the president's opinion about increasing the role of the media in the life of the society and the state. Together with the president, the government will support journalists and provide them with every opportunity to objectively inform the population about the reforms and conduct a direct and honest dialogue about the events in the country. The government will create opportunities for financial and technical support for the press, as well as radio and television companies. In the very near future, we will discuss with mass media representatives a complex of urgent measures aimed at that."

Filatov Reacts

LD0611152393 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1400 GMT 6 Nov 93

[Text] Boris Yeltsin has the right to repeal his decree calling early presidential elections on 12 June, Sergey Filatov, presidential administration chief, believes. He stated this today at a meeting with journalists.

[Begin Filatov recording] I believe that this was a forced compromise, forced, and as it turned out, unnecessary. It was completely obvious that it was unnecessary even then because the crisis of power that arose in the state was absolutely, obviously—in public opinion—first and foremost connected with the legislative and whole system of soviet state power. It was artificially necessary to force the president to create the impression in society that he was also responsible for that situation. I have always believed that it was a forced measure. The fact that the president took it just shows once again that he is not clinging to power; above all else he wants to fulfill his promises to the people. If he has to leave the political arena, then he wants to leave the political arena having carried out the program that he promised his electorate. I believe he has the moral right to repeal his decree. It is simply an obligation of the president that he should see through what he undertook to do. [end recording]

Stankevich Comments

LD0711175293 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1429 GMT 7 Nov 93

[Text] Boris Yeltsin's statement on Saturday saying he would not hold early presidential elections in 1994 will pour some "cold water" on those opposition groups which hope for a complete government change if they win elections to the Federal Assembly, presidential adviser Sergey Stankevich told Interfax.

He said Yeltsin's latest statement was a follow up to the one he had made at a recent cabinet meeting saying he would yet fight for the incumbent reformist government. The President had thereby made it clear he would not agree to a cabinet shake up depending on election results, Stankevich said.

The adviser said the concession "for early parliamentary elections" that Yeltsin offered on September 21 had been "forcibly" annulled following the events of October 3-4.

It is very important to try to avoid any unpredictability in the way the state is performing, Stankevich said. He spoke of an intensive dialogue being under way with Russian territories on the issue of the country's federal structure and of a host of problems on how to enforce the new constitution after it had been approved in a nationwide referendum.

The new constitution vests the president with substantial powers which must be implemented immediately, Stankevich believes. But this will be hard to achieve and the legitimacy of Yeltsin's decisions may be put to question if he continues as caretaker head of state until presidential elections next June, he said.

Stankevich says that in a situation such as it is now, it will not be expedient to hold early elections for the country's presidency. He said that Yeltsin's main task is to ensure continuity while that of the new parliament to create a legal groundwork for further reform. Nothing short of this can help achieve long-term stability over the interim period, he said.

Borovoy Condemns Decision

LD0611202593 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1705 GMT 6 Nov 93

[Text] Konstantin Borovoy, leader of the Economic Freedom Party and the August election bloc, said the Russian president "cannot cancel his decision on holding a presidential election on June 12 any more than he can cancel the election to the Federal Assembly, because that is his commitment to the citizens of Russia and the world community."

Commenting on President Boris Yeltsin's declared intention to remain in office until 1996, Borovoy told Interfax the 1994 presidential election could only be called off by the State Duma.

Canceling the June election would have a negative effect on society, for Yeltsin, "lacking experience in democratic government," is unable to reform the totalitarian political structures, Borovoy said.

Christian Democrat Leader Reacts

LD0611202293 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1705 GMT 6 Nov 93

[Text] Viktor Aksyuchits, leader of the Russian Christian Democratic Movement, said an early presidential election seemed to be President Boris Yeltsin's only justification of what he had done over the past month.

"Unfortunately Yeltsin has simply deceived everybody in this way, as he has done in many others," Aksyuchits told Interfax, commenting on Yeltsin's plans to cancel the June 12 presidential election.

"Many, including myself, did have the apprehension that that was a trick, a card that would be played and then thrown aside, and that's what happened," he said.

"Yeltsin's political course would at best lead Russia into an impasse, but may indeed ruin the country. He would have quite enough time until the next election to destroy what is still undestroyed," Aksyuchits said.

Commission Head Thinks Early Presidential Election Unlikely

MK0611122093 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian No. 75, 6 Nov 93 (signed to press 5 Nov) p 2

[Petr Zhuravlev report on interview with Mikhail Mityukov, chairman of the Commission on Legislative Proposals; place and date not given; under the "Lawmakers" rubric: "Commission of Legislative Suggestions as a Window Overlooking the Future Parliament. Mikhail Mityukov Thinks Early Presidential Elections Unlikely"]

[Text] The new draft Russian Constitution "will resolve the problem of achieving political and economic stability in the country and also the integrity of the state. In our conditions, this can be done through a strong executive authority and the creation of effective parliamentarianism." This is what Mikhail Mityukov, chairman of the Commission on Legislative Proposals, said in an interview for SEGODNYA. According to Mr. Mityukov, "the constitution is neither classically parliamentary nor classically presidential. It is a mixed constitution with strong elements of a presidential republic." Mr. Mityukov approved of the decision to submit the draft to a referendum, because "the parliamentary approach to the adoption of the constitution had reached an impasse," and "the referendum is the most democratic way of resolving the problem." If the draft is rejected on 12 December, two options are possible, Mityukov said: either the constitution will be adopted by a body elected by the State Duma, "which is fairly problematic and unrealistic;" or by a constitutional (constituent) assembly.

Mikhail Mityukov said that if the current draft constitution is approved by referendum, early presidential elections "would be out of the question, because the document's transitional provisions say that the president will exercise his functions provided for in the constitution during the remainder of his tenure." The likelihood of holding presidential elections next June is 10 percent, Mr. Mityukov believes.

The Commission on Legislative Proposals, headed by Mikhail Mityukov, is not "a parallel structure that would stand in the way of the law-drafting activity of the executive branch and the Federal Assembly." The commission's main function is to create a legal framework for the activity of the future parliament and to save "whatever positive had been accomplished by the Supreme Soviet." According to Mr. Mityukov, the commission has selected over 150 bills that "are in line with current economic policy and political realities," and between 60 and 70 of them are to be finalized on a priority basis. When asked whether the commission will remain after the new parliament is in place, Mikhail Mityukov could not give a clear answer, stressing only that there was no such word as "provisional" in its name. He also believes that if the commission proves to be "an effective institution, it will be able to help the executive branch solve another problem that emerged during the Supreme Soviet's life." According to Mr. Mityukov, the issue was "a bias in lawmaking activity, where the bulk of drafts was "baked" at the Supreme Soviet itself—which should not be a normal course of business—whereas ministries and departments established direct contacts with Supreme Soviet committees and commissions, bypassing the government and the presidential administration in order to pursue their parochial interests." We need to achieve a situation where "the bulk of bills would originate with the executive branch," and "political, professional, and regional lobbying, which was typical of the parliament, would be eliminated," the commission chief said.

At present, the Commission on Legislative Proposals is drawing up 11 terms of reference documents that are required for the Federal Assembly to function normally, including both chambers' rules of procedure, laws on committees and commissions, and on deputies' status. The rules of procedure, Mikhail Mityukov said, are to stipulate above all the autonomy of the chambers and a lack of a Supreme Soviet Presidium-style body linking them together. "The role of Duma chairman should be reduced to chairing meetings, not to allocating credits, salaries, and benefits," the commission chief pointed out. In addition, the role of factions, their links with the parties and the voters they represent, and also "the participation of the ruling majority in giving consent to the appointment of a prime minister" should be specified.

"We realize," Mikhail Mityukov said, "that a minister who is at the same time a parliamentarian is a transitional phenomenon for the two years during which the Federal Assembly of this convocation will operate." The

law on deputies' status will evidently state that a minister holding a parliamentary seat may not sit on a committee that supervises his ministry. When found guilty of misuse of office, "ministers-cum-deputies" will be stripped of immunity from prosecution which they enjoy as parliamentarians.

Yeltsin Signs Instructions for Organizing Elections

LD0611174993 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1600 GMT 6 Nov 93

[Text] Boris Yeltsin signed today a number of documents providing organizational backup to the upcoming 12 December parliamentary elections and to the referendum on the draft constitution, according to the presidential press service. The budget of the constitutional vote has been approved: 82,748 million rubles have been earmarked for this purpose.

On the instructions of the president, a control and auditing service has been established under the Central Electoral Commission to control the budgetary resources which are being used to finance elections to the Federal Assembly.

A team has been formed to provide stylistic and juridical editorial service to the draft constitution, and this editing should be completed by tomorrow at the latest. On 9 November the finished text will be handed over for publishing.

The president also signed today an instruction on ensuring the work of foreign observers who would monitor the elections and the referendum on 12 December.

Further on Instruction

LD0611185493 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1745 GMT 6 Nov 93

[Text] Moscow, 6 Nov (ITAR-TASS)—President Boris Yeltsin today signed an instruction "on provisions for the activities of foreign observers in the course of the elections to the Federal Assembly and the nationwide ballot on the draft constitution of the Russian Federation," the Russian president's press service has reported.

The instruction envisages that a working group is to be set up under the Central Electoral Commission to provide for the activities foreign observers; the group is to include representatives from the Russian Foreign Ministry, the Russian Ministry of Transportation, and of the Moscow city government. The group will issue accreditation to foreign observers, coordinate their visits to constituencies throughout the Russian Federation, maintain contacts with electoral commissions with the aim of providing for observers' work, receive from observers and summarize the information on the progress of the elections, and also organize briefings for observers.

In the same document, the president instructs the Russian Foreign Ministry to ensure that visas are issued in good time to those representatives of foreign states, international organizations and non-government foreign organizations and movements who are sent to Russia to observe the elections to the Federal Assembly.

Edict Clarifies Vote Counting

LD0811055893 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0031 GMT 8 Nov 93

[Text] Moscow, 7 Nov (ITAR-TASS)—In connection with appeals to the president of the Russian Federation from the Central Electoral Commission, to provide equal opportunities for all the candidates to the posts of deputies and electoral associations and to reflect as objectively as possible the will of electors at the elections to the State Duma and the Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation on 12 December 1993, Russian Federation President Boris Yeltsin has decreed:

1. To define more precisely the provision on elections of deputies to the State Duma in 1993 approved by the Russian Federation president's edict of 1 October 1993 No. 1557 "On approving the amended version of the provision on elections of deputies to the State Duma in 1993 and introducing amendments and addenda to the provision on the federal bodies of authority for the transitional period" ("Russian Federation presidential and government acts", 1993, No.41, p.3907) in accordance with appendix 1.

2. To define more precisely the provision on elections of deputies to the Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation in 1993 approved by the Russian Federation president's edict of 11 October 1993 No. 1626 "On elections to the Federation Council of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation" ("Russian Federation presidential and government acts", 1993, No.42, p.3994), in accordance with appendix 2.

3. The Russian Federation president's press service reports that the edict comes into force as of the day of publication.

1. In accordance with Appendix No. 1 the first sentence of clause 1 of Article 24 should read as follows:

"An electoral association which has submitted an all-federation list of candidates can nominate candidates to the State Duma in single-seat constituencies from among the candidates on its all- federation list".

2. The words "the number of votes cast against each candidate" should be removed from the sub-clause "g", clause 4, article 37.

3. Clause 6, article 38, should read:

"The Central Electoral Committee deems elections in the all- federation constituency as not having taken place

if the number of valid voting-papers is less than 25 percent of the number of registered voters. The Central Electoral Commission deems elections in the all-federation constituency invalid if the violations of the provision committed in the process of elections make it impossible to fully ascertain the results of the electors' will".

4. The last paragraph of sub-clause "h", clause 2, article 39 should read:

"elections in a constituency should be deemed as not having taken place if the total number of voting papers is less than 25 percent of the registered deputies;"

5. Clause "a" of the Procedure for distributing the mandates of deputies between all-federation lists of candidates should read:

"a" first, the sum total of votes is counted as cast in the all- federation constituency for the all-federation lists of candidates of the electoral associations which were allowed to distribute mandates in accordance with article 38 of the provision. This sum is divided by 225—the number of mandates of deputies being distributed in the constituency. The result obtained is the first electoral quotient;"

6. The following sentence should be added to the last paragraph of clause "c" of the procedure for distributing the mandates of deputies between all-federation lists of candidates: "When distributing the mandates within the list the electoral quotient may differ from the first electoral quotient."

"To nominate a candidate in a constituency electing deputies to the Federation Council it is required that signatures of the constituency's electors accounting for no less than 1 percent of the total number of the constituency's electors be collected to support the candidate or that no less than 25,000 signatures be collected in constituencies numbering 2,500,000 to 4,000,000 electors and no less than 35,000 signatures in constituencies numbering over 4,000,000 electors."

2. [number as received] Sub-clause "i" of clause 2, article 31, should be deleted.

3. The fourth paragraph of sub-clause "l", clause 2, article 31, should read:

"Elections in a constituency are deemed as not having taken place if the total number of valid votes is less than 25 percent of the number of registered electors;"

The above is quoted from a report by the Russian Federation president's press service.

Kozyrev Says Parliament Must be Democratically Minded

LD0511194293 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1434 GMT 5 Nov 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Georgiy Shmelyov]

[Text] Moscow November 5 TASS—The Russia's Choice election coalition is a nice group of politicians and economists, it is a "dynamic center of political and economic reforms" needed by Russia, Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev told ITAR-TASS before leaving for Odessa today.

In his opinion, the coalition "is not extremist, it does not include people who revel in words 'freedom and democracy' and do not want to hear anything else. Its members are politicians and economists who have made mistakes but also grew experienced. This is a most attractive feature of the Russia's Choice".

At the same time, Kozyrev is concerned with the appearance of a number of election lists, parties and programs, including the one of Anatoliy Sobchak. He said he could join this list himself or unite it with the Russia's Choice. The need for consolidation is quite evident: "It is absurd to start arguing when the sides do not know what the stumbling stone is. I cannot understand what we argue about with Sobchak," he said.

It is also unclear what separates the Russia's Choice from Sergey Shakhray, although his list is more complex, noted Kozyrev. He stands for everybody's understanding of the main thing: The elections should result in formation of a "democratic and reform-minded parliament". This is the main goal and it must not be forgotten in the political rush, stressed the foreign minister.

Gaydar on Elections, New Parliament's Wrangling

MK0611114093 Moscow MOSKOVSKIY KOMSOMOLETS in Russian 6 Nov 93 p 1

[Interview with First Deputy Prime Minister Yegor Gaydar by Mikhail Gurevich; place and date not given: "I Am Waiting for a New Parliament With Great Apprehension"]

[Text] [Gaydar] In spite of the fact that there are very many election blocs now, in the final analysis there are just three options for the voters. The first is to vote Communist. This is an option for the revolutionaries, for those who want again to change sharply the path of development on which Russia has embarked, neutralize all market mechanisms, and once again try to impose on us the system which everywhere else in the world has proven its ineffectiveness.

The second option is to vote for one of the minor parties standing in between the communists and Russia's Choice. These motives are quite understandable: the reforms in Russia have proceeded painfully. The wishes are also understandable: a little slower, a little more

cautiously and carefully. In my opinion, there are two problems with this option. First, it is impossible to freeze while leaping forward. After the old regulation mechanisms have been essentially taken out of action, it is possible to stabilize the situation only by building a coherent and effective market mechanism. Moderation and caution are advocated by those who by their political vacillations in 1990 and 1991 brought the country to economic chaos and then had a little practice on the former fraternal republics. Since it is impossible to travel into the past, I advise those who want to have it "a little slower" prior to the elections to visit their relatives in Ukraine.

The second reason is political. These small intermediate parties will produce a parliament split into small factions, responsible not for the situation in Russia but at best for ensuring the good prosperity of their deputies and the thriving of one of the sectoral lobbies.

[Gurevich] Sad as it might be, a certain number of "intransigents" will get into the Federal Assembly. And even two dozen people can "set in motion" several hundred. Plus those "intermediate formations," plus ambitions....

[Gaydar] There is a risk in any event. The present elections are vital to Russia. Respect for the institution of parliamentarianism is at an extremely low level; two parliaments have been dissolved and it may not be impossible to get over the dissolution of a third. I, for one, have no euphoria whatsoever; I am waiting for the new parliament with great apprehension, remembering the democrats' inclination to fight and divide the portfolios. But if we manage (as I hope we will) to build a sensible majority in parliament, there will always be a set of methods to bring the minority to order.

[Gurevich] During a recent statement by the president on the Constitution, the Kalmyk genius Ilyumzhinov, who was going to be prosecuted a month ago, was quietly sitting in the hall. The head of the Komi Republic is going to appeal to the United Nations. Will the "Federation components," after this prolonged wooing, not finally "let themselves go"?

[Gaydar] In my opinion, there is no problem here. The "fleeing" from Russia was to a very large extent simply due to a power vacuum in Moscow. Ever since 1990 there have been two centers: first the Union and the Russian ones, and then the Russian legislative and the Russian executive. It was possible to run from one to the other, blackmail and press for benefits.

[Gurevich] But for a long time the executive branch did not feature a particular strength.

[Gaydar] The power structures are also intelligent. It is one thing to operate in the context of dual power (but even so there were structures that stayed loyal to the president even on 3 and 4 October) and quite another when there is centralized subordination.

[Gurevich] In other words, Colonel Guseynovs are not threatening us?

[Gaydar] Of course, there are national problems that must be reckoned with (but not frightened of). And this local separatism is merely the echo of a departing train. We have a normal and healthy process of federalization and it will continue to evolve.

[Gurevich] Russia's Choice is already practically a ruling party—in the number of the incumbent government members involved in it. How do you relate to a situation in which all ministers have been affiliated with particular election blocs, sometimes diametrically opposite ones?

[Gaydar] Our government has been coalition-based in spirit at least since last April, since the Sixth Congress.

Today my main concern is work within the government and the creation of a normal legal basis for reforms. I shall be proceeding from this, not from election interests, and my colleagues in Russia's Choice are doing the same, as I hope cabinet members affiliated with other blocs are doing.

Shakhray on Coordination Between Parties, Blocs

LD0611194193 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1705 GMT 6 Nov 93

[Text] The Party of Russian Unity and Concord (PRUC) collected over 200,000 signatures in support of its list of candidates for the State Duma, its leader Sergey Shakhray told INTERFAX. The lists will be submitted to the Central Election Commission at about 19:00 today, Russia's deputy premier said.

According to him, an agreement has been drafted between the Russian Choice bloc, the Movement for Democratic Reforms, the Yavlinskiy-Boldyrev-Lukin bloc and the PRUC on coordinating their activity in one-mandate electoral districts. Shakhray intends to recommend that centrist blocs, such as the Civic Union, should join this agreement.

The Civic Union in the Name of Stability, Justice and Progress led by Arkadiy Volskiy submitted 150,000 signatures collected in support of its candidates for the State Duma. The national movement Dignity and Charity submitted 130,000 signatures.

INTERFAX's correspondent learned from the headquarters of the Democratic Party of Russia that it had collected 110,000 signatures which will be delivered to the Central Electoral Commission by 20:00.

According to the information available to INTERFAX, the Yavlinskiy-Boldyrev-Lukin bloc and Konstantin Borovoy's association August are experiencing difficulties in collecting enough signatures. However the bloc's headquarters neither confirmed nor denied this, pleading insufficient information. The same answer was

given by the headquarters of August, whose spokesmen said that the situation will become clearer after 20:00.

Skokov Not in Presidential Race

MK0511165093 Moscow OBSHCHAYA GAZETA in Russian No. 16/18, 5-11 Nov 93 (Signed to press 4 Nov) p 5

[Yelena Dikun report under the "Unmentioned in the Lists" rubric: "Skokov Is Not Playing This Game"]

[Text] All more or less notable politicians have joined the election race, except perhaps, those in Lefortovo Prison and Yuriy Skokov. The absence of the former is excusable, but where has the former Security Council secretary gone? Until recently he was among the front-runners for the presidency; he organized the Accord for the Sake of the Fatherland committee as recently as this past August, in which observers discerned the nucleus of a formidable election alliance, but hardly had things reached the election stage and Skokov's committee men fanned out to join various blocs—whereas the Accord's founding father opted for "lying low."

Nothing special. As one of Skokov's staffers explained to us: "Yuriy Vladimirovich has realized that all this is not for him, and he does not wish to play these games. Much of his time and effort goes into the work in the Federation of Commodity Producers. Right now he is busy preparing a congress of this organization scheduled for 19 November. At the moment he is abroad on a business trip.

Zorkin Accused of Vote-Rigging on Presidential Edict

LD0511213193 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1739 GMT 5 Nov 93

[Text] Former Constitutional Court (CC) Chairman Valeriy Zorkin rigged the voting results on the Court ruling which qualified as unconstitutional the Russian president's decree and address to the nation on September 21, Acting CC Chairman Nikolay Vitruk told Interfax following a CC meeting on Friday.

He said the examination of the Court proceedings overnight on September 22 had revealed that only three of the judges voted against the presidential decree and by definition, for Yeltsin's impeachment. They are Viktor Luchin, Nikolay Vedernikov and Oleg Tiyunov.

However, Judges Boris Ebzyev, Yuriy Rudkin, Gadis Gajiyev and Nikolay Seleznyev voted against impeaching the president.

Four others - Nikolay Vitruk, Tamara Morshakova, Ernest Ametistov and Vladimir Oleynik - said they were opposed to the ruling qualifying Yeltsin's actions as unconstitutional.

Though the impeachment clause should have been excluded from the ruling, Court Chairman Valeriy Zorkin had falsified the final results by retaining it, Vitruk said.

These circumstances had given credibility to the actions and resolutions of the former parliament, including the appointment of Aleksandr Rutskoy as acting head of state. Zorkin took advantage of an atmosphere of emotion and rash decision making to rig the vote, without drawing the attention of the other judges, Vitruk said.

In his view, the ruling had led to violence meaning that Zorkin must face criminal charges.

Statement Denies Accusations

LD0611172693 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1508 GMT 6 Nov 93

[Text] Moscow, 6 Nov (ITAR-TASS)—In connection with allegations of vote rigging made by Nikolay Vitruk, acting chairman of the Constitutional Court, in his interview to the Ostankino Television Company against the Constitutional Court's former chairman Valeriy Zorkin, the latter has circulated the following statement:

People who accuse the chairman of the Constitutional Court of 'rigging' the votes of the Constitutional Court's judges in the ruling on unconstitutionality of the president's actions and decisions (in connection with Decree No. 1400) just make themselves look tragicomic. Everything was done openly, in front of everyone, including the casting of votes in support of the text of the well-known verdict reached at the session. This is confirmed by the shorthand records in which the position and the will of all the judges has been reflected.

Naturally, I could not have inserted any changes or additions to the shorthand report even using the purely procedural and technical possibilities existing in the practice of the court's work.

The motives for the conduct of those, who from the very outset have justified arbitrariness and who now are trying to shift the blame for the bloody events onto the chairman of the Constitutional Court, are clear.

While categorically rejecting the accusations made against me, I only regret that it has not been possible to grasp the chance that existed of resolving the conflict peacefully. I am convinced that only a coalition of all creative forces in society, based on popular accord, is capable of resurrecting constitutional order and ensure peace, calm, and prosperity to Russia.

Communist Party's Zyuganov Defends Vote Participation

PM0811082593 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 4 Nov 93 p 1

[Interview with Gennadiy Zyuganov, chairman of the Communist Party of the Russian Federation Central

Executive Committee Presidium, by Valentina Nikiforova; place and date not given: "Elections: Ponder Well, People. Labor. People's Power. Justice"]

[Text] The question or whether to take part in or boycott the 12 December elections is once again tormenting Communists and all left-wing democratic forces. At its recent conference the Communist Party of the Russian Federation [CPRF] decided to take part in the elections and it has nominated candidate deputies. What brought this decision? Gennadiy Zyuganov, chairman of the CPRF Central Executive Committee Presidium, answered this and other questions from your PRAVDA correspondent.

[Nikiforova] Gennadiy Andreyevich, after the hard days of September and October would it not have been more principled to abandon what is obviously an untimely campaign?

[Zyuganov] Of course, the first and natural impulse of every citizen who respects the law is to boycott the hasty action. Taking part is tantamount to, as it were, recognizing the legality of the authorities' actions and insulting the memory of the dead defenders of the Constitution and the constitutional system. But...

Why should we Communists take part in the elections? Primarily in order to be with the people. In order to pave the way of law amid lawlessness.

Let us weigh everything up. Isn't our nonparticipation what the organizers of the elections are hoping for? Look, just a 25-percent voter turnout makes the elections valid. If there is a low voter turnout and no public supervision they will succeed not only in creating a semblance of unanimity behind their parliament's election, but also drag in their constitution, which guarantees an honest working person nothing—not only not the right to labor, education, and medical services, but also to personal safety. Should one resign oneself to tyranny, which may at any minute break into conflict? We think that it is the task of the state-patriotic opposition and the duty of all honest men to prevent dictatorship from legalizing itself.

[Nikiforova] Incidentally, one should clarify the concept of a boycott. This is civil disobedience to the authorities, which does not only take the form of refusing to go to the polling station and submit a ballot paper. The authorities really like that kind of boycott. Only an active boycott—when the refusal to vote is reinforced by street marches and a strike movement—can have any meaning. You must take a realistic view of events: At the moment there is not that kind of willingness for opposition in Russia. Gennadiy Andreyevich, could you tell us albeit briefly what conclusions the CPRF drew from the tragic events of September and October?

[Zyuganov] The supreme anarchy took the bitterness in people's hearts out of control.

The CPRF predicted this end to the supreme tyranny and gave honest warnings about this. What happened is the logical consequence of the policy of state extremism that we warned against back in May.

It is annoying that we did not manage to get through to the organizers of the so-called "stage-by-stage constitutional reform," the first stage of which has already cost hundreds of lives and ended in the destruction of the representative and judicial branches of power.

[Nikiforova] Gennadiy Andreyevich, are you aware that in this situation the CPRF's taking part in the elections is very risky. There may be two results: Either the party will grow stronger, or...it will disappear. Will a party that is only just finding its feet and has been repeatedly slandered be able to resist the major parties and blocs with their good funding and what is to all intents and purposes government support?

[Zyuganov] Of course we need money—we will be grateful to anyone who can help, we also need cadres. Some 85 of the 89 regional organizations backed our decision to take part in the elections. This offers a good chance of strengthening the party's base and its structure in a specific cause.

[Nikiforova] The aim of your taking part in the elections is understandable. But with what slogans is the CPRF entering the civilized struggle for the right to decide the people's future, the state's future?

[Zyuganov] Our slogans are labor, people's power, and justice. The Communist Party is putting forward a program to restore civic peace and legality and bring the country back into the civilized mainstream of development. The first stage of this program is to restore the activity of the three branches of power. The second covers the transitional period of economic and political stabilization and the elections of new people's representatives. I think that the soviets were dissolved illegally and unfairly. The third and final stage is to formulate and enact a new Fundamental Law for the state.

The main question during the first phase is the question of the representative power. The Federal Assembly is not a parliament. It is illegitimate both in terms of provenance and in terms of the procedure for its election. The only thing that it is entitled to and can do is pave the way of law. In order to do that it is necessary to declare edict No. 1400 and all the acts arising therefrom legally invalid from the moment of their adoption. Restore the Constitutional Court, investigate the circumstances of the coup d'etat, and institute proceedings against those who organized it. And, in conjunction with representatives of the soviets of people's deputies of all levels, schedule elections to a Constitutional Assembly in order to formulate and adopt a new Fundamental Law.

[Nikiforova] Whom does the CPRF consider its allies?

[Zyuganov] The Agrarian Party and the Russian National Union. We have common ground with the Constitutional Democrats, the Christian Democrats, and the industrialists.

[Nikiforova] The candidates will be able to decide the outcome of the elections—depending on how well known and prestigious they are. Who is on the CPRF list?

[Zyuganov] There are a total of 182 candidates on the party list. The worker Ionov, the teacher Pletneva, the lawyer Ilyukhin, and the cosmonaut Sevastyanov have agreed to run.

PRAVDA Interviews Agrarian Party Leader

PM0811114593 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 3 Nov 93 p 1

[Interview with Agrarian Party leader M. Lapshin by Valentina Nikiforova under the general heading "The Elections: Think About Them, People"; place and date not given: "Why Peasants Need Politics"]

[Text] The Agrarian Party of Russia is among the 29 registered parties and blocs participating in the elections. Therefore quite a few barbed remarks have been aimed at it: People say, why do peasants need politics when it is their business to plant potatoes and milk cows. This is the point one. Second, some extremely farsighted people suspect that the communists are dreaming of forcing their way into power by way of the Agrarian Party of Russia's list of candidates. Is this true? The party's leader, M. Lapshin, answers a PRAVDA correspondent's questions.

[Nikiforova] Mikhail Ivanovich, is your party's membership so large that it has decided to enter the election race on its own?

[Lapshin] There are at the moment about 100,000 members of the Agrarian Party. I must point out here that the membership of the Agrarian Party of Russia is young. We have no pensioners in it. You will possibly consider this to be a shortcoming. But those who are actively working in the party are young machine operators, private farmers, and specialists in agro-industrial production and agricultural business. In the party there are shareholders and cooperative workers, doctors and teachers, financiers and economists, reclamation specialists and constructors. In short it is made up of those who are really concerned about the Russian people's future and who are capable of creating normal living conditions: so that potatoes and milk are available in the stores and at the market, and that people can buy these products.

[Nikiforova] Please tell me, are there only agrarians on the party's list or have outsiders nevertheless "infiltrated" it?

[Lapshin] Who is an outsider? For example, we find the writer Valentin Grigoryevich Rasputin among the 257 candidates for deputy. What, is he foreign to the countryside? What about the lawyers Vladimir Borisovich Isakov and Viktor Osipovich Luchin? The power at the top will become depleted if the talent and principles of such people are not called on, whoever they might be by profession. We are already selecting candidates so that directly after the elections we can sit down as a ready-made faction and seriously set about agrarian legislation. I know from my own experience how important this is. I after all was the first person in the country to set up a joint-stock company—"Zavety Lenina"—back in 1986. In those days this sounded like imperialist machinations. I really got it in the neck... But at the moment it is even more important to create at least some kind of legal bridgehead for the peasants; otherwise hasty decisions will bring about a disaster.

[Nikiforova] Do you have in mind B. Yeltsin's edict "On Regulating Land Relations and the Development of the Agrarian Reform in Russia"?

[Lapshin] That too. Incidentally, this edict emphasizes for the umpteenth time that Russia, peasant Russia, is in need of sound legislation.

[Nikiforova] Are there objections to the edict?

[Lapshin] It is more that there is bewilderment. When such important documents are prepared they do not consult with the peasants. Surely, the city "agrarian specialists," the theoreticians do not know more about this than they? In the final analysis, there is, after all, our Agrarian Party, and there is still the Kolkhoz Council and the private farmers—it would not be a bad thing to find out what the general opinion was and to not rush the edict out. Many people, are now turning to me—they know me both as a Russian deputy and the leader of a farm. They ask what need is there to rush the edict out when a land law is necessary? It is possible to adopt a well-founded and considered act. When the elections are over it will be possible to work on the draft in the Duma, and later publish, discuss, and take into consideration what the Supreme Soviet has produced. But they have rushed to make people happy on the eve of the elections, saying that you can buy and sell the land...

[Nikiforova] You mean, the Agrarian Party is against the purchase and sale of land?

[Lapshin] No, it is not against its purchase and sale. We are against unregulated legislation about purchase and sale. Incidentally, this does not exist anywhere in the world. Only 40-42 percent of land in the United States is affected by market relations, and the rest is owned by the nation, which leases it out. In other countries it is permissible to sell land, to one's son or brother, but not to anyone who comes along. The law must clearly lay down that the land must not pass from the peasants to just anybody. In accordance with the edict the peasants received the right to sell off land. Is it not clear how this will end?

[Nikiforova] You mean the state is no longer taking on the task of feeding the people?

[Lapshin] I would say this: It is removing the responsibility for incompetence in organizing the matter. For

example, in many countries the state is obliged to collect from the peasants all the produce they have grown. But here grain, vegetables, flax, and sugar beet have not been taken up this year. Nobody is taking responsibility for this!

[Nikiforova] Does all your work in the election campaign revolve around opposing the edict?

[Lapshin] Of course it does not. We want to bring together what is best in Russia and other countries (I have been abroad often, I know four languages, and have talked with private farmers, senators, and members of agricultural corporations), and to enshrine in law the relationship of the owner to the land, to give our provider his due, and to give him back his good reputation and respect. Let us look back at the past: Over the past 300 years all disturbances have started with land revolts.

Indeed, we are resolute when we say that we are defending the kolkhozes and sovkhozes. They do not conflict with the peasants' truly communal spirit. But we are also defending the hard-working private farmer. Last year there was an attempt to disband the kolkhozes. There was pride in the fact that 260,000 private farmers were registered. But I would put it more precisely: not private farmers but people who received plots of land which were on average 43 hectares in area. How many of them became private farmers? The statistics keep quiet about this. But we understand why many of those who sincerely wanted to work were unable to do so. If we say that we are supporting private farming, we are not supporting farming with spade and horse, where the role of the horse is assumed by the farmer himself, but agricultural production on an industrial basis. This has already been set up in the best kolkhozes and sovkhozes. This is why good legislation is necessary so that what is best and most advanced flourishes. This is why I together with the Agrarian Union and the agrarian trade unions have decided to get seriously involved in politics and actively engage in the election campaign. Our slogan is: "Legality, Justice, Creativity, and Prosperity."

Leader Criticizes Yeltsin 'Deception'

LD0611204893 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1705 GMT 6 Nov 93

[Text] In an interview with Interfax the leader of Russia's Agrarian Party, Mikhail Lapshin, described Boris Yeltsin's statement as to the possibility of cancelling the early presidential elections planned for June 12 and the intention to perform his functions till they expire in 1996, as "actual deception of the people."

According to him, "the people believed in the early presidential elections promised to them, and calmed down." Now it transpires that it was "a political ploy," Lapshin said. "The man who fired at the parliament should have learned on June 12 what people think about him," Lapshin declared.

August Bloc Leader on Yeltsin, Russia's Choice

LD0511212893 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1739 GMT 5 Nov 93

[Text] Amendments introduced into the draft of Russia's Constitution over the last period of time testify to the fact that President Yeltsin "has already started arguing with the parliament which does not exist yet," leader of the election bloc August Konstantin Borovoy declared in his interview with INTERFAX. First of all, he negatively assesses the restriction of the parliament's role to "a purely decorative one." In his words, "if the parliament does not take an active part in the creation of the government, there will be a conflict."

According to Borovoy, the government should reflect the disposition of political forces in the State Duma and, correspondingly, in society. He also criticized "the rejection of the term sovereignty" as this will surely lead to "a struggle with regions."

Speaking about the future of the Cabinet, Borovoy expressed doubt regarding the fact that it would be formed only by the bloc to which everybody predicts victory, namely Russia's Choice. He believes that this bloc is unlikely to collect 51 percent of votes, which any party announcing itself a leading one, should be able to collect. "If they collect a smaller number of votes," said Borovoy, "Russia's Choice will be forced to create a coalition government."

Opposition's Umalatova, Shashviashvili Not To Run

PM0811130793 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 4 Nov 93 p 2

[Aleksandr Golovenko report: "S. Umalatova: 'It Was Absolute Hell...'"]

[Text] Sazhi Umalatova, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Standing Presidium, and Ivan Shashviashvili, member of the Russian Supreme Soviet, said yesterday at a press conference for Russian and foreign journalists that they will not be standing in the coming elections.

They both made this difficult decision after agonizing reflection. "After the bombardment of the parliament, where we stayed until the last minute, and the arrest of A. Rutskoy and R. Khasbulatov, after all the death, blood, and violence that we saw, it is hard for us to agree," S. Umalatova said, "although we were nominated by certain collectives." Sazhi described all that she saw on 4 October as absolute hell. She thinks that the press and television, which are totally in the hands of the authorities, are being rigorously controlled by them (only 25 percent of voters need to take part in the elections). Therefore the elections cannot be democratic and nationwide [vsenarodnyy].

The speakers in particular described how OMON [Special Purpose Militia Detachment] personnel beat up

Constitutional Commission Senior Secretary Oleg Rumyantsev in the House of the Soviets. In response to the blows he only yelled: "What are you doing? We are building a rule-of-law state..."

The well-known oppositon leaders think that the fate of the future Federal Assembly is predetermined since certain circles are already threatening today that, if it does not adopt the president's version of the constitution, it will be dissolved.

Baburin Confident of Strong Electoral Showing

MK0511161093 Moscow KOMMERSANT-DAILY in Russian 5 Nov 93 p 4

[Olga Garbuzova report: "Opposition Is First To Have Collected the Required Number of Signatures"]

[Text] Leaders of two electoral associations—the Russian National [Obshchenatsionalnyy] Union and the Democratic Party of Russia—stated yesterday that they have garnered the 100,000 signatures required. In the opinion of these politicians, such a result is due to the fact that their electoral blocs are liked by the population more than the other associations. The collected signatures, however, have not yet been endorsed at the Central Electoral Commission.

The Russian National Union and the Democratic Party of Russia have not yet turned over their campaign lists to the Central Electoral Commission because part of signature lists are yet to arrive in Moscow from the Russian provinces. Sergey Baburin, leader of the Russian National Union, fears there will be difficulties in delivering the signatures. Besides, the work of his organization is hampered by the absence of necessary premises (in the past the Union occupied rooms that belonged to the parliament). In Baburin's opinion, district electoral commissions should be permitted to endorse signature lists in the provinces.

Baburin is confident that his Union will be strongly represented in the Federal Assembly, and that the election results will be entirely different from those forecast by the media today.

Russian National Union deputies intend to work together in the new parliament with representatives of the Agrarian Union, the Communist Party of the Russian Federation, and with some centrists. The Russian National Union list contains several dozen former Russian and Soviet Union deputies.

Addressing yesterday's press conference, Nikolay Travkin, leader of the Democratic Party of Russia, stated that his party was going to have more allies than opponents in parliament. Travkin ascribes to electoral haste alone the fact that two different blocs were created—the Yavlinskiy-Boldyrev-Lukin bloc, and the Democratic Party—otherwise these forces would have spoken in one voice.

At the top of the Democratic Party's list are Travkin, film director Stanislav Govorukhin, Academician Oleg Bogomolov, and former ministers Nikolay Fedorov and Sergey Glazyev. All the association's candidates, in Travkin's words, "are positively decent professionals." In Travkin's opinion, the elections for the Federation Council and in one-candidate districts will not take place because all the politically active figures are now "tied" to the party tickets at the moment.

The organizers of both press conferences noted "absolute indecency" in the current electoral campaign. For example, the Russian National Union is being denied the possibility to meet with journalists in the Parliamentary Center on Tsvetnoy Boulevard. Besides, Baburin demands publication be resumed of all banned opposition newspapers, primarily SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA. Stanislav Govorukhin is sure that elections in Stalinist times looked "ethically more decent."

Baburin Signatures Stolen in Raid

LD0611122193 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1100 GMT 6 Nov 93

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] At attack on the temporary headquarters of the Russian All-People's Union took place yesterday evening in Moscow. INTERFAX was told this by Sergey Baburin, chairman of the Russian All-People's Union and former Russian people's deputy.

Central Electoral Commission Chairman Nikolay Ryabov today confirmed the report about the devastation in the headquarters of the Russian All-People's Union. As Nikolay Ryabov stated at the morning session of the Central Electoral Commission, as a result of the raid by unknown people, the Russian All-People's Union lost all its lists of signatures.

Further on Claims

LD0711063793 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1850 GMT 6 Nov 93

[Text] Moscow, 6 Nov (ITAR-TASS)—Sergey Baburin, the chairman of the board of the Russian People's Union [Rossiyskiy Obshchenarodnyy Soyuz], sent today a letter to Viktor Yerin, minister of internal affairs, which contains a resolute protest against the theft of a list with voters' signatures in support of this association.

The letter, a copy of which was received by ITAR-TASS, says that seven people armed with submachine guns turned up on Saturday night in front of the building of the Fund for Solidarity and Social Protection which temporarily housed the Russian People's Union. Three of the people were dressed in civilian clothes and four of them were wearing special purpose troop uniforms and helmets.

One of those in civilians clothes showed an ID of Senior Sergeant Mikhail Skripnik, a militiaman. The group

searched the Fund's premises during which members of the election headquarters of the Russian People's Unity were prevented from accompanying them. "After the group left, it was discovered that subscription lists containing about 22,000 signatures collected in various regions of Russia were missing. Those regions include Moscow and its oblast, Omsk, Novosibirsk, Kurganskaya oblast, Bashkiria, Ulyanovsk, and Smolensk," the letter says. "In connection with the aforementioned, I voice a resolute protest against actions by the Russian Federation Interior Ministry, and insist that subscription lists be returned and an investigation be carried out," the letter says.

Official Explains Action

LD0711171993 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1100 GMT 7 Nov 93

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] INTERFAX reports that Yevgeniy Salasyanov, the head of the Moscow and Moscow Oblast security department, has confirmed that the raid on the headquarters of the Russian All-People's Union was not prompted by colleagues of Sergey Baburin. You will recall that, as a result of the attack by unknown persons, as representatives of the union claim, lists with 20,000 signatures disappeared from the building.

I have just received a report from the Moscow main internal affairs directorate's public relations center. This is what it says: On 5 November a report was received that several citizens suspected of committing serious criminal offenses might be in the Russian All-People's Union headquarters. The same day, an operative group of officers from the Moscow militia was sent to check this information. With the agreement of former USSR People's Deputy Kogan, four militia officers entered the building where they found former Deputies Alksnis and Baburin. The militia officers carried out only a visual inspection of the building; desks and safes were not opened. Sure that the people being sought were not present, the militia officers left the building. No allegations or complaints about this visit have been made.

More Blocs Win Right To Submit Lists; Violations Noted

PM0811112593 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 5 Nov 93 First Edition p 1

[Unattributed report under the "Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow" rubric: "Votes Cost Money"]

[Text] A total of 31 electoral associations have obtained the right to collect voters' signatures for federal party lists of candidates for the State Duma. The latest associations to hand in their lists of candidates were the National-State Party, the Russian Democratic Reform Movement, and the Independent Professionals Movement.

It is hard to imagine how they will collect 100,000 voters' signatures within a matter of a few days—before 2400 on 6 November—because the blocs which joined the election campaign earlier have now come close to the desired figure.

Unfortunately, there have already been violations of the rules for the preparations for the elections. Thus, cases have been recorded in Omsk Oblast where signatures have been collected in support of candidates whose names are kept secret. A tariff has even been established for the collectors: 20,000 rubles [R] for 100 signatures.

There are many financial difficulties at present. For example, Bryansk Oblast has not received a single ruble from the Central Electoral Commission. All expenditure, assessed at R1 billion, is being borne by the oblast and rayon administrations out of their own budgets.

Parties Collecting Signatures for Election Registration

LD0511225693 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 2050 GMT 5 Nov 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents]

[Text] Moscow November 5 TASS—The electoral campaign is gaining momentum in Russia as the collection of signatures in support of different parties and blocs is nearing completion and voters' association begin to take shape.

The leaders of the electoral association "Consolidation Party" said today they were nearing a successful end of the drive to collect signatures - 90 thousand out of the required 100 thousand to enable the party to get its nominees registered for the race have already been collected. The party leader Valeriy Neverov, who is chairman of the board of directors of the Germes concern, told journalists in a press conference here today that all the required documents would undoubtedly be presented to the Central Electoral Commission on Friday.

The Association of Independent Professionals has also collected about 90 thousand signatures, and hopes to collect the missing 10 thousand within 24 hours.

The Communist Party of the Russian Federation announced on Wednesday night that some 150 thousand signatures had been collected in various regions of the country. The party leader Gennadiy Zyuganov said the party called on its organisations to celebrate the 1917 revolution anniversary on November 7 in a way precluding conflicts with authorities.

The electoral association formed by the Russian Christian Democratic Party hopes to complete its signature electing campaign as scheduled, on November 6. Chairman of the party's political council Aleksandr Chuyev said his association would collaborate with Russia's Choice, the Yavlinskiy-Boldyrev-Lukin bloc and

the Shakhray bloc in the election campaign to make sure that radical communists get no seats in the new parliament.

The Central Electoral Commission today accepted the lists of candidates from some parties and blocs, including the Association for Tax Reform and Free Trade and a group calling itself "Alternative". They would be hard pressed to collect 100 thousand signatures within 24 hours remaining before the deadline but the commission did not turn them down anyway.

With these latest additions, a total of 34 public and political associations are now collecting signatures.

Konstantin Borovoy, the leader of the election bloc "August" told a press conference here today that August would coordinate efforts in the election campaign with "Russia's Choice": The two blocs have agreed to back each other's nominees in one-seat constituencies.

According to Borovoy, the rating of these nominees will be identified through public opinion surveys fifteen days before the elections, and then one of the blocs will recall its candidate, enabling the remaining contender to represent both blocs in the elections.

Debates were held in Moscow on Friday about the elections and the future state system of Russia. Organised on the initiative of the Federation for Peace and Concord jointly with the Russian Peace Committee, the debate brought together representatives of the bloc Russia's Choice, the Liberal Democratic Party of Russia, the Communist Party of Russia. The Women of Russia Movement, the Fatherland Bloc, and the Green Party. Participants in the debate agreed that the preservation of the country's integrity, civil peace and national concord were the key mainstays of Russia's future state system.

A special working group has been set in the Ostankino Television and Radio Broadcasting Company to ensure proper coverage of the electoral campaign and draw up a document on the entire range of problems associated with the elections, first deputy chairman of the largest federal electronic media company Valentin Lazutkin told a press conference here today.

Lazutkin stressed that the main objective is to provide equal opportunities for all parties and electoral blocs to present their viewpoints on television and radio.

On agreement with the Central Electoral Commission it has been decided to set apart two hours on the air from November 20 for televised debates. Participants in the debates will have to draw lots.

Numerous breaches of the rules for collecting signatures for candidates to the Moscow City Duma are a result of the "shortage of information" about the work of the Moscow City Electoral Commission, according to its chairman Anatoliy Petrov.

"The commission often has to reply to elementary questions about the signature collecting campaign," Petrov complained.

Election Commission Figure on Signature Submission

PM0811093793 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 6 Nov 93 p 1

[Interview with Candidate of Juridical Sciences Aleksandr Ivanchenko, deputy chairman of the Central Electoral Commission, by Vladimir Ivanov; place and date not given: "Election Struggle Expected To Be Tense. Two Dozen Parties and Blocs May Be Involved"]

[Text] Another stage in the election campaign—the collection of signatures for political parties' and electoral blocs' federal lists—is coming to an end. Signature sheets bearing 100,000 signatures collected from at least seven regions of Russia are to be submitted to Russia's Central Electoral Commission [CEC] at 2400 hours 6 November. How is the collection of signatures going, are there any irregularities in this process, and what might the results be—Candidate of Juridical Sciences Aleksandr Ivanchenko, CEC deputy chairman, answered these questions.

[Ivanchenko] The collection of signatures in support of candidates from social blocs and parties is an important element in the electoral process. This practice did not exist in our country before. Yet this is the mandatory norm in developed democratic systems. This is the mechanism for people to initially express their will: If a party's stance strikes a chord with them, it gets their signature; if it does not, the party is unable to collect the prescribed number of supporters and thus quits the campaign.

The set figure in Russia is 100,000—a fairly sizeable, but at the same time attainable figure. Parties which attain this figure and thus, to use a sporting analogy, get through the qualifying heat, confirm their request for deputies' mandates. And those who do not...

[Ivanov] Will they withdraw?

[Ivanchenko] Yes, at least they withdraw their federal lists. But that does not mean that their representatives cannot try their luck in single-seat State Duma districts, where elections will be held on the majority system, or in two-seat Federation Council districts. They have their own norms for the collection of signatures there, and sheets of signatures will carry on being submitted through 14 November.

[Ivanov] In your view, do many of the 29 parties and blocs have a chance of getting their candidates into a federal electoral district?

[Ivanchenko] Those who have already proved their worth do. However, the point is that some parties and blocs are effectively trying their strength. For them this is

a chance to test their political influence. And the number of signatures that they collect is a real reflection of it.

[Ivanov] Have major irregularities been recorded in the collection of signatures?

[Ivanchenko] The press reports various cases of signatures being collected on various other pretexts—for applications for grants to be raised, on some other pretexts. However, the CEC has not received official reports about these cases. Parties and blocs are now keeping a careful eye on one another, effectively acting as our voluntary helpers. And I think that if they do not find cause for protest and appeals, there are none—at least none that warrant interference on our part.

[Ivanov] Once the signatures have been submitted to you and the commission, we know that they will be examined. What will be checked out?

[Ivanchenko] A uniform signature sheet and format have been established. It should, among other things, contain data regarding the top three people on the party or bloc federal list as well as data on the signatories, enabling us to preclude or reveal falsification. Our experts will check that out. They have moreover been set a tight schedule—five days.

[Ivanov] If any irregularities or deviations from the prescribed norms are found, what steps will the CEC take against the perpetrators?

[Ivanchenko] We hope that it will not be necessary to take steps, primarily because we know that the parties and blocs are themselves checking whether the signature sheets have been filled out correctly—or will do so before handing them in. To be on the safe side, my advice would be to collect some extra signatures—just in case some are set out wrongly. As for negligible irregularities or deviations that may be detected, we will most likely submit them to the future State Duma's credentials commission for consideration. We are not about to withdraw anyone from the electoral marathon.

[Ivanov] Aleksandr Vladimirovich, it has come to light today that some candidates have been nominated on several federal lists simultaneously while others are also running in single-seat districts as well. Is that legal?

[Ivanchenko] As for nominating two or more political parties or blocs on federal lists, these candidates must choose one, and only one, electoral association by 6 November. And confirm this choice with a written statement of their assent to run on its list. These statements should also be handed in by 2400 hours 6 November by all candidates on parties' and associations' federal lists.

As for single-seat districts, candidates are entitled to run for the State Duma at the same time as for a federal district and a single-seat district. Moreover if, say, a candidate is selected in both places, he runs for the single-seat district and his place on the federal list is taken by the next person.

[Ivanov] In that case can another candidacy be included?

[Ivanchenko] No, the federal district lists handed to the CEC are considered final and new candidacies cannot be included on them, candidacies can only be crossed off.

[Ivanov] Do you nonetheless expect many parties and blocs here 6 November?

[Ivanchenko] Over one-half of those on the current list, I think, two dozen parties and blocs apiece. So the election struggle will be a tense one. And the result will depend on each voter.

Parties Eligible To Participate in Elections

LD0611173993 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1100 GMT 6 Nov 93

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] Today, the following have announced their intention to hand over 100,000 signatures to the Central Electoral Commission by the end of the day, in order to be able to participate in the December elections: The Communist Party, Civic Union, the Russian Movement for Democratic Reforms, the "August" bloc, the Democratic Party of Russia, the Agrarian Party, the "Fatherland" bloc, the Constitutional Democratic Party, the "New Names" bloc [blok "Novyye Imena"], the "Transformations" bloc, the Consolidation Party, the "Dignity and Charity" Association [Obyedineniye "Dostoinstvo I Miloserdiye"] the "Women of Russia" movement, the National Republican Party and the "Youth Housing Cooperative" Corporation [Korporatsiya "Molodezhno-Zhilishchnyy Kooperativ].

Vladimir Zhirinovskiy, the leader of the Liberal Democratic Party, personally brought in the lists of signatures to the Central Electoral Commission. At the same time, Interfax has been told that as of this morning, the Party of Russian Unity and Accord, headed by Deputy Prime Minister Sergey Shakhray, has already gathered more than 150,000 signatures in support of its candidates.

Parties Submit Lists to Electoral Commission

LD0611171993 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1347 GMT 6 Nov 93

[Text] The Central Electoral Commission Chairman Nikolay Ryabov on Saturday confirmed reports that the Headquarters of the Russian People's Union, led by former deputy Sergey Baburin, had been ransacked. As Ryabov reported at a morning session, as the result of a raid by unidentified persons last night, the party has lost all its subscription lists.

He also announced that the commission had turned down a proposal to reduce the 5 percent limit (the number of votes, necessary for political parties and blocs to secure seats in the Federal Assembly) down to 3 percent.

As an INTERFAX reporter has learned, yet another two associations - the Russian Local Self-Governing Union and the Federal Political Movement "Alternative"—submitted their candidates lists on Friday night. Thus, 35 associations made their candidates lists available to the commission by Saturday. The presentation deadline is midnight, November 6.

On Saturday, the intention to submit 100,000 signatures by midnight has been voiced by the Communist Party, the Civic Union, the Democratic Reforms Movement, the "August" Bloc, the Democratic Party, the "New Names" bloc, the "Transformation" bloc, the Consolidation Party, the "Dignity and Charity" Association, the "Russian Women's" Movement, the National Republican Party, and the Youth Housing Cooperative Corporation.

The Liberal Democratic Party Leader Vladimir Zhirinovskiy himself brought his party's subscription list to the commission on Saturday.

Meanwhile, the Russian Unity and Concord Party (led by Vice Premier Shakhray) is reported to have collected over 150,000 signatures in support of its candidates by Saturday morning. The collection of signatures has been under way in 72 regions of Russia.

'August' Bloc Fails To Meet Commission Requirements

LD0711062993 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 2158 GMT 6 Nov 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Yuriy Filippov]

[Text] Moscow, 7 Nov—At half an hour before midnight, when the acceptance of signatures in support of candidates for the State Duma from pre-election parties and associations by the Central Electoral Commission officially ended, about 60,000 signatures supporting the "August" pre-election bloc (leader entrepreneur Konstantin Borovoy) had arrived. In the opinion of Borovoy, who distributed a statement by the bloc among journalists here, it was only possible to collect "real" signatures on city streets, and certainly not in state enterprises, military composite units, collective farms, and others.

At the same time, the statement distributed by the "August" bloc emphasizes that "the elections must go ahead." The statement contains a call by the bloc for its sympathizers to support the "Russia's Choice" bloc general federal list at the elections. The statement also emphasizes that the Economic Freedom Party [also led by Borovoy], the basis of the "August" pre-election bloc, still intends to take part in the elections and will compete for places in parliament from single-mandate electoral districts.

Final Figures on Pre-Election Signatures Reported

LD0711094593 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 0721 GMT 7 Nov 93

[Text] On 6 November at midnight the Central Electoral Commission on the elections to the Federal Assembly concluded the collection of the lists of signatures. Twenty out of 35 parties and public associations managed to submit the signature lists. The documents were submitted in the following order:

The first one is 'Cedar' Constructive Ecological Movement—150,000 signatures; then the Liberal Democratic Party—173,000; the Agrarian Party—500,000; the Civic Union—150,000; 'Dignity and Mercy' [Dostoinstvo i Miloserdiye]—130,000; as many again for Women of Russia; Russian Movement for Democratic—135,000; Communist Party of the Russian Federation—187,000; Future of Russia-New Names [Budushcheye Rossii-Novye Imena]—109,000; as many again for the Democratic Party of Russia; and the Party of Russian Unity and Accord—222,000.

Russia's Choice about 200,000 signatures; Yavlinskiy-Boldyrev-Lukin bloc about 170,000; Constitutional Democratic Party about 103,500 signatures. Consolidation Party—100,000; New Russia [Novaya Rossiya] more than 100,000 signatures; the Russian All- People's Union supported by 108,000 people; and the Russian Christian-Democratic Party by more than 100,000. The Association of Independent Professionals got 114,000 signatures; and the National Republican Party of Russia 102,000 signatures.

These figures were given to journalists by representatives of the parties and social movements. Now, within five days the Central Electoral Commission must check the data. Associations that pass the checks can begin the official election contest. These were RIA correspondent figures. According to ITAR-TASS, not 20 but 21 associations presented their signatures, but so far we have no information as to which party was the 21st.

Commission Reports Over 2,000 Candidates Nominated

LD0811131493 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1144 GMT 8 Nov 93

[Text] According to the Central Electoral Commission, the number of candidates to the State Duma nominated by 21 associations total 2,490, 682 fewer than initially declared.

For instance, the Agrarian Party's list decreased by 112 candidates, that of the "Civic Union" by 86, that of the Constitutional Democratic Party by 67, and that of the Yavlinskiy- Boldyrev-Lukin bloc by 42. The least drop-out - 4 candidates - was from the Liberal Democrats list.

108 one-mandate constituencies nominated 1219 candidates to the Federal Assembly by November 7.

Of the 374 nominated candidates to the Federal Council, 13 have been registered, among them President Mikhail Nikolayev of Yakutia and ex Vice-Chairman of the Republics House in the dissolved Supreme Soviet Victor Zhigulin.

Of the 844 nominated candidates to the State Duma, 12 have been registered, among them ex Vice-Chairman of the dissolved Supreme Soviet Valentin Agafonov.

Parties Present Signatures, Candidates to Commission

LD0811131993 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1144 GMT 8 Nov 93

[Text] 21 parties and associations submitted to the Central Electoral Commission the lists of their candidates to the State Duma by midnight November 6. These are the anti-pollution association "Cedar" (150,000), the Liberal-Democratic Party of Vladimir Zhirinovskiy (153,000), the Agrarian Party of Mikhail Lapshin (500,000), the Civic Union of Arkadiy Volskiy (150,000), "Dignity and Charity" (130,000), the movement "Russia's Women" (127,000), Russia's Democratic Reform Movement of Anatoliy Sobchak (135,000), Russia's Communist Party of Gennady Zyuganov (187,000), "Russia's Future - New Names" (109,000), Russia's Democratic Party of Nikolay Travkin (109,000), Russia's Unity and Concord Party of Sergey Shakhray (222,000), the bloc "Russia's Choice" of Yegor Gaidar (200,000), the bloc of Yavlinskiy-Boldyrev-Lukin (170,000), the Constitutional Democratic Party of Mikhail Astafyev (130,500), Sergey Baburin's All-People Union of Russia (108,000), Russia's Christian Democratic Party (100,000), the Association of Independent Professional [as received] (103,000), the Consolidation Party (100,000), the National Republican Party (102,000), the association "Transformation" (110,000).

Roundup of Election Campaign Activities

LD0611211193 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1601 GMT 6 Nov 93

[Text] Moscow November 6 TASS—The election campaign is gaining momentum in Russia as the campaign to collect signatures in support of election blocs is drawing to the end. Voters of various political and social orientation are establishing public movements.

ITAR-TASS has learnt from Yuriy Andreyev, chairman of the electoral commission in constituency No. 32 in the city of Orenburg, that 1,798 polling stations have been set up in the region. The region has received half of the requested two billion roubles needed to finance the election campaign. Of the received 1,017 billion roubles 800 million will be granted to three regional constituencies, while 1,798 polling stations may hope only for the remaining 217 million roubles, that is about 120,000 roubles for each. However, the expenses are expected to be considerable. For example, the region has already bought 80 tonnes of paper worth 60 million roubles, plus 22 million roubles spent on stamps for regional and district electoral commissions. Transport expenses will add to the sum, Andreyev said.

In the Irkutsk region, the Russian Popular Union led by former Russian Deputy Sergey Baburin has collected 4,500 signatures. Russian Vice-Prime Minister Sergey Shakhrai's bloc has so far gathered 2,900 signatures. They are being followed by the Russian Communist Party and the Civic Union with 2,000 signatures each. The blocs led by Grigoriy Yavlinskiy and Yegor Gaydar close the race. The bloc Vybor Rossii (Russia's Choice) may count for not more than 300 signatures because of the continuing disputes among its members.

The election campaign in the Stavropol region has entered a new stage as head of the regional administration Yevgeniy Kuznetsov, who has already collected the requited number of signatures for elections to the Council of the Federation, the upper house of Russia's future parliament, has been registered by the regional electoral commission for voting by secret ballot. Kuznetsov has been nominated and supported by several industrial enterprises, agricultural farms, organisations and institutions, as well as public blocs, movements and political parties of both democratic and opposition orientation. Local businessman Roman Gavrilov has become the first registered candidate for elections to the state duma.

The movement of supporters for democratic reform in Kuzbass, the urals region, has denounced as incorrect and contradicting to the law the behaviour of the candidates who use the working time of their voters to collect signatures in support of candidates from trade union and veteran organisations, or resort to the help of schoolchildren in their election campaign. One such incident occurred at the Kemerovo flour mill when its workers were summoned at 10:30 allegedly for a meeting with representatives of the cultural institute but were addressed by Aman Tuleyev, former regional functionary. In some schools campaigners force teachers to make their students collect signatures as well.

Head of the Kirov regional administration Vasiliy Desyatnikov has announced his decision to run for the Federal Assembly. In an interview with ITAR-TASS on Saturday, Desyatnikov explained the delay in his decision by waiting for the authors of a new draft constitution to allow heads of regional administrations to combine their work with deputy duties. He believes this will allow the members of the federation to have their say in solving regional problems. Speaking about the situation in the region, Desyatniov said that it remains stable from the political point of view. Local authorities are trying to interact with all political parties and movements working on its territory. At the same time, the economic situation is alarming as production decline continues. The governor called for more radical changes in the reform programme. He said a programme of structural

reform in the region which is being drawn by local specialists will serve this purpose.

Pro-patriotic residents of the city of Novosibirsk held a meeting on Saturday to voice support for the Russian Communist Party, the Agrarian Party and the Russian Popular Union. Candidates to the Council of the Federation were named. They include Vladimir Sychev, head of the regional council, and Aleksey Suchkov, head of the agrarian company Inya.

Among the candidates to the State Duma are Nikolay Kharitonov, president of the joint stock company Galinskoye, Ivan Anichkin, director-general of the association Oksid, Lyubov Shvets, assistant professor of a local commercial institute, and Vladimir Karpov, head of a technical college.

Thus, the first step has been made towards consolidation of communist, socialist and other pro-patriotic forces. However, it is still early to speak about the settlement of all disagreements between them. There are groups and movements which call for boycotting the elections.

The electoral commissions of eight one-mandate constituencies in St. Petersburg have not registered a single candidate to the State Duma so far, although several of them have already collected the required number of signatures (5,000). The verification of the authenticity of the lists of signatures is a big problem. Many signature collectors receive the necessary information about the voters (passport number, address, etc.) from district house maintenance offices which provide them with their files. The signatures are often forged by the collectors themselves.

Nikolay Ivanov and Aleksandr Shchelkanov met with their voters at the St. Petersburg State University on Saturday. Former Soviet deputy, investigator Nikolay Ivanov who now heads the foundation for progress, human rights and mercy is running for a seat in the state duma from the Novaya Rossiya (New Russia) election bloc. Among the bloc leaders are also investigator Telman Gdlyan and lawyer Mikhail Bocharov. Both of them are former Soviet deputies.

The bloc which includes ten parties and movements of democratic orientation aims at restoring a "powerful and developed democratic state with a social and market-oriented economy" and fighting corruption. Its members oppose extreme radicalism in politics because the activities of both left and right radicals destabilise the situation in society. Shchelkanov, also former Soviet deputy and former head of the Leningrad executive committee, is running as an independent candidate for the Council of the Federation.

About 60 per cent of St. Petersburg voters plan to take part in the upcoming parliamentary elections scheduled for December 12, the local public opinion study centre said. Some 82 per cent of these people have already made up their mind. 12 per cent haven't decided their position yet, while six per cent do not trust any political party in Russia.

Sociologists believe that Vybor Rossii (Russia's Choice) has the best chances so far. In St. Petersburg it can count on 40 per cent of votes. It is followed by the Yavlinsky-Boldyrev-Lukin bloc with 30 per cent and the Democratic Reform Movement led by Anatoliy Sobchak and Gavriil Popov with eight per cent.

In the Ryazan region local electoral commissions held their first meeting on Saturday to discuss the election campaign. There are 1,160 commissions in the region. The campaign to collect signatures in support of local candidates to the Federal Assembly is drawing to an end. According to preliminary information, Vyacheslav Lyubimov, former Russian deputy, is the leading candidate. The Russian Christian Democratic Movement led by Viktor Aksyuchits has also collected an impressive number of signatures.

In Chuvashia, a republic in the Volga region, Valentin Agafonov, former deputy Russian parliament chairman, is the only registered candidate to the Federal Assembly so far. Over a short period of time he has collected over 8,000 signatures.

Ostankino Official Outlines Program Plans

LD0511174893 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1100 GMT 5 Nov 93

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] Valentin Lazutkin, first deputy chairman of the Ostankino Television Company, today spoke to journalists about how television would cover the election campaign. He said that up to 20 November, all parties, blocs and movements who intend to take part in the elections will have the opportunity to buy air time on any television channel and acquaint viewers with their preelection platform. In particular, Ostankino will provide time for this after the evening "Novosti" newscast: at 2140 [1840 GMT]. These 30 minutes do not exceed the time allocated for any commercial. The cost of one minute of air time is considerably less than that for advertizing, amounting to 606,800 rubles [R]. If the assistance of television experts or the use of a studio is required, then the sum may increase a little to R743,200.

So far, no applications have been made, Lazutkin said. In addition, it has also been decided to put on one two-hour program every day which, provisionally, will carry the title "Tele Debates," where anyone calling himself a politician may put his point of view on the campaign and answer questions from opponents and viewers. It is planned to allocate time on Russian television channels for such a program.

Parties' Election Victory Chances Assessed

LD0511213293 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1739 GMT 5 Nov 93

[Text] All political parties without exception have committed offenses in collecting signatures for having their parliamentary candidates registered, a fact which puts the Central Election Commission in a position to find fault with the list of any election coalition at its own discretion and bar it from the election, said experts from America's Stanford University and Moscow State University.

They told a news conference on Friday that no more than five or six parties and coalitions stood a real chance of winning the minimum of five percent of votes necessary to be represented in the State Duma. These organizations are Russia's Choice, led by Yegor Gaydar, the Yavlinskiy-Boldyrev-Lukin Bloc, led by Grigoriy Yavlinskiy, the Party of Russian Unity and Concord, led by Sergey Shakhray, the Democratic Party of Russia, led by Nikolay Travkin, and the Communist Party of the Russian Federation, led by Gennadiy Zyuganov. The chances of the Civic Union headed by Arkadiy Volskiy are fairly slim, the experts believe.

They regard today's election coalitions as quite unsteady, political parties being still in the making. Most of the coalitions will fall apart as soon as they win parliamentary seats and will be replaced by three principal coalitions, pro-reform democrats, led by Russia's Choice, Civic Union-led centrists advocating protective measures for Russian industry, and "anti-Westerners," ie communists and socialists, the experts said.

Other Changes in Election Rules Seen Upcoming

MK0611111093 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 6 Nov 93 p 1

[Ivan Kanayev report under the "Campaign" rubric: "New Election Rules in Pipeline Based on the 'What Benefits Russia's Choice Benefits the Rest' Principle"]

[Text] Early this week, the Central Electoral Commission asked the president to sign an edict on yet another change in the election regulations, this time around referring to the elections for the Federation Council. It is suggested to reduce the required number of signatures to be collected in support of this or that candidate before 15 November. The existing rules establish the norm as one percentage point, which amounts approximately to between 40 and 40,000 signatures in big electoral districts. Bringing down the number has been suggested for these districts to mean that at least 25,000 signatures should be collected where voters number up to 4 million, and at least 35,000 signatures should be collected where the number of voters tops 4 million. According to some information, Yeltsin's edict to this effect will be signed either by the time this NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA issue goes to print or sometime today.

Apparently, the presidential edict's drafters—virtually all of them are either participants in or organizers of the election campaign—were wondering whether it would be wise to make this amendment, which is why there has been no such edict up to now. It was obviously decided that it would be wise, because this would enable representatives of central democratic movements to compete more successfully against representatives of regional political and economic management elites.

It has become known to your NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA correspondent from sources in the president's staff that there is yet another draft edict amending the regulations for elections to the State Duma. The edict's drafters seek to amend the mechanism that turns a candidate into a deputy—virtually to introduce a second round of elections. Thus the winner in the first round is supposed to garner more than a half the votes. Two top contenders will clash in the second round. Most probably, the first source thinks, this edict will never reach the president's desk because it benefits no one, and primarily pro-government candidates. According to current rules, to win in the elections one is supposed to score a relative majority of votes provided that at least 25 percent of the total number of voters have taken part in the elections.

Communists Urge 100% Turnout, Spurn Constitution

MK0611123093 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian No. 75, 6 Nov 93 (signed to press 5 Nov 93) p 2

[Dmitriy Kuznets report under the "Communists" rubric: "Gennadiy Zyuganov: 'Everybody to the Elections!' for the Sake of Creating a Coalition Opposition Government"]

[Text] The Russian Federation Communist Party [RFCP] has easily surmounted the first hurdle on its way to deputy seats. Its activists have collected 150,000 signatures "in the overwhelming majority of the Federation components," which entitles the party to present its list for the elections to the State Duma. This was announced by Gennadiy Zyuganov, leader of the communists, yesterday.

As for his party's chances, Mr. Zyuganov was not very optimistic; he habitually complained that "competing with "Russia's Choice," an association that controls all the financial channels, information channels, and government authorities is very difficult." However, in Mr. Zyuganov's view, if we analyze the results of the April referendum, the opposition has a solid "untapped" reserve, that is, those who did not turn out for the vote at that time.

Gennadiy Zyuganov sees Russia's rural areas (the Chernozem region and the north Caucasus) as the communists' main support base. It was there that the bulk of signatures was gathered, whereas Russia's Choice, in his view, will draw support primarily in big cities. Recently,

however, the RFCP's electorate has expanded thanks to young people and the urban intelligentsia, Mr. Zyuganov added.

If the desired victory in the elections is achieved, the communists' immediate objectives will be "to establish strict law and order" and to form a coalition government with the agrarians and nationalists. Gennadiy Zyuganov believes, however, that the RFCP does not have realistic chances of winning a solid majority in parliament. All the more so because his dream about 100 percent of opposition sympathizers' turning out for the elections looks like castles in the air. The RFCP shares an electoral base with the radical —currently banned—Communist Workers' Party (Anpilov's party), whose loyalists are not inclined to have any part of "Yeltsin's" elections. Gennadiy Zyuganov sees this radicalism as "unreasonable," because "the law has been designed in such a way that elections cannot be boycotted."

The party's main objective, in its leader's view, should be the adoption of "a genuinely people's constitution" as a master plan for Russia's life. Methods for carrying this plan out are as yet unknown, but the communists's primary objective is evidently to block the adoption of Yeltsin's "anti-people constitution" at the 12 December referendum. Gennadiy Zyuganov called on all the communists who are ready to turn out for the balloting to vote against the text of the fundamental law "whatever might be written in its final version."

Stankevich Urges End to Election Mudslinging

MK0511171093 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 5 Nov 93 p 2

[Sergey Stankevich article in the "Carte Blanche" column: "Democracy Washed With Slime? Election Blocs Start Collecting Smear Material on Each Other"]

[Text] The election campaign in Russia is entering the decisive and fateful stage when the rival parties and blocs, after lining up their hastily organized regiments, calling the rolls and proclaiming their combat slogans, moved in against each other, stepping up their march. Confrontation is inevitable. How tough or ruthless will it prove to be? What will it bring to political rivals, voters, and Russia? And how will the upcoming general battle affect the general state of Russian democracy?

In spite of all the obvious defects of the hasty election campaign, the numerous slips and the unseemly political fuss, there is no getting away from the inevitable conclusion: The parliamentary elections and the adoption of the constitution are to take place precisely in December. No later. While the "shock consolidation" effect that emerged after the tragic 3-4 October events still lingers on.

Of course, all sensible people in Russia would very much like to see consolidation of a different, non-traumatic kind. There was hope that the sensible majority, including the greater part of the political class, would have enough goodwill, tact, and political aptitude to come to conscious, not tactical, consensus with respect to the main values and goals of Russian society. That did not happen. Some have failed and others sunk into hysteria and mutiny.

Having found ourselves on the verge of an abyss in October and having seen dead bodies on the streets, we recoiled and for a certain time pushed back the habitual strife. Many former opponents were united by the shock against a premonition of civil war, and an overwhelming wish to stop the impending fratricide.

To be sure, "shock consolidation" will not last very long. But if we want to draw any lesson from the October tragedy, it is necessary now, before the memory of these days becomes drowned in verbiage, to create a more or less stable and effective constitutional and political mechanism called upon to resolve conflicts and coordinate at least the basic interests of the Russian people.

The parliament and the constitution must start working in December or else the fatal internal conflict, which we shall inevitably reproduce as early as the first months of next year, will not meet the shores and will again engulf us—this time affecting not only the capital.

Everything seems to be okay, and still as the election campaign is gathering momentum there is a growing sense of alarm over its outcome and its far-off implications.

With a hasty selection of candidates on the party lists there were a few too many accidents, subjective decisions, and obvious mistakes. Conversely, many outstanding professionals, irreplaceable in law making but unsophisticated in the tactics of struggle in election constituencies, have been left overboard. The qualitative makeup of the future parliament will hardly benefit from this. The law leaves the possibility of only one-sided adjustment of the lists, but even this should apparently be used.

The main danger, however, lies elsewhere. The final stage of the election campaign is swift flowing; the parties are numerous and the programs of those who advocate a particular option of market reforms are barely discernible for the rank and file, especially provincial, voter. What can be done to shake up the common man, to agitate and spur on the supporters and even eliminate the rivals or friends/competitors?

The well-proven weapon of wild democracy, the special treat for the writing and the reading public and the easiest way to fame and self-assertion is His Majesty Defamation [ego velichestvo kompromat]. Alas, under certain conditions it could become the prime moving force of the election campaign in the very near future.

There is multiplying evidence to the effect that parties and blocs, preparing for a decisive battle, are intensively arming themselves with compromising material. Special teams are being created to gather it; couriers are being

dispatched to various places, professional hit men hired, old files reviewed and new ones created. What is worse, sometimes the capabilities of state structures are being used. A critical mass has apparently been accumulated already. Any day now a flood of dirt may surge through.

Any politician is in a certain sense doomed. Given some skills and material and technical support, he can be humiliated, driven into a corner, or "terminated." Defense is difficult and very often futile.

There is always the possibility of literally quoting some irresponsible and elusive muckraker, then give the victim a chance to respond and... hit him with another quotation or a sarcastic commentary. This is great entertainment for the public, while no one listens to explanations ("they are all the same")—and the mere fact of a scandal, especially several days before the elections, is devastating.

Unless our politicians, deputy candidates, and the press outlets supporting them establish minimum moral limitations for themselves, unless the main reformist groups impose at least a brief moratorium on defamation as a tool of democracy, and, finally, unless the sensible part of society restrains the uncontrollable passions—political and personal—then the outcome of the present, long-awaited election campaign may turn out to be deplorable.

Democracy washed with slime will repulse the Russian voter and will make many, very many, easy prey for the advocates of the old ways.

Opponents of reforms will naturally manage to explain to the shaken philistine that "they are all the same" since they are engaged in such mudslinging.

The real, fair struggle for the purity of ranks, esprit de corps and intentions has nothing to do with the speculative pre-election cheap scandal show. Indeed, along with the dirty water we risk throwing away the baby with whom so many pains and hopes have been connected.

It is useful to think about all these questions right now while there are not just days but hours to go, yet the sensible and responsible citizens of Russia can still change a great deal.

'Russian Watergate' Viewed

MK0511182093 Moscow MOSKOVSKIYE KOMSOMOLETS in Russian 5 Nov 93 p 1

[V.K.-signed report under the "Elections-93" rubric: "Russian Watergate In the Making. Parties Spy on Each Other"]

[Text] According to reports from informed sources, a week ago, on 28 October, a closed-door meeting of "Russia's Choice" members was held in the building of the former Moscow City Council. The conference, which First Deputy Prime Minister Yegor Gaydar did not attend, discussed the tactics of electoral struggle and also the question of who would be "Russia's Choice" main electoral rival.

Having discussed this subject, the participants in the meeting concluded that no one could match "Russia's Choice" except the Party for Russian Unity and Accord [PRES]. Hence, the PRES should be combated. (For this purpose, two people were sent to the Caucasus to find evidence compromising PRES leader Sergey Shakhray from his spell as head of the provisional administration in the state of emergency area.) In addition, the conference decided to use its influence on Yevgeniy Savostyanov, chief of the Russian Security Ministry's Moscow branch, so that he would help "Russia's Choice" to collect damaging evidence against the PRES candidate most familiar to the voters.

In countries with long-standing democratic traditions, methods of electoral struggle have never been very polite. Throughout the world, parties could not do without voluntary assistants (informants) who deliberately washed their rivals' dirty linen in public. Inviting a deputy security minister for this purpose, however, is a purely Russian feature. It is hard to imagine that the Party for Russian Unity and Accord will wage its election struggle in white gloves. It is fairly possible that it will also try to find sympathizers in the state apparatus' power structures.

Why don't the parties at least try to turn the election struggle into an election campaign?

Provincial Nomenklatura Will Be 'Trouble'

PM0511132193 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 5 Nov 93 First Edition p 1

[Aleksandr Aleshkin commentary: "Whose Sovereignty Is Superior?"]

[Text] Two most important factors determine the Russia's immediate future, and possibly its more distant future too: elections to the Federal Assembly and relations between the center and the components of the Federation.

The pre-election machinery has gone into operation on the entire territory of the country. Only surprises of an individual nature may be in store for us 12 December: the success or failure of certain leaders or particular political blocs. By and large, I believe, Boris Yeltsin's supporters are "doomed" to success, and this has been determined first and foremost by the dissolution of the Supreme Soviet, whose loss meant that the opposition to the president was deprived of a coordination center.

The dramatic Moscow events of late September and early October not only failed to clarify relations between the center and the components of the Federation, they made them even more confused—and they have been extremely complex in the past two or three years as it is.

Some republics, krays, and oblasts supported the president (notably in referendums), while others followed the Supreme Soviet. The "front line" frequently cut through a component of the Federation: The executive structures were geared toward the Kremlin, while the representative structures favored the White House.

And this polarity of political sympathies and antipathies became clearly apparent right after the publication of Boris Yeltsin's famous 21 September edict.

As awareness set in that the soviets' departure from the historical foreground was inevitable and irreversible (the same happened two years before with the CPSU), the representative organs of power in many areas reviewed their original tough stance in respect of the center and, with various reservations, agreed with the edict.

Today you can say that it has no open hard-line opponents. But there are many components which are taking up a wait-and-see stance. And this can be attributed to at least two factors.

Following the collapse of the CPSU, the party nomenklatura flowed into the soviets in an organized way, where it established itself, quickly assimilating the new realities. Its passive opposition to the edict was short-lived. Having mastered social mimicry and adaptability to the changing political situation, it will now quickly realize (and in many cases has already understood) that the new elections and the reform of local power bode it no good.

Possessing organizational experience and using the masses' dissatisfaction with the sharp deterioration in living conditions in its own interests, the nomenklatura can fully expect some degree of success in the elections. The only thing it can win from the center is the postponement of the campaign until the spring and even summer of next year.

The center will have more trouble from the local party elite which already heads sovereign republics within the Federation. Doubtless it is being put on its guard by the newly revived idea of solving the ethnic question in a Bolshevik way on the wave of success at the same time.

This involves a new territorial state structure—the division of Russia into provinces or lands. Of course, it is attractive to krays and oblasts which have started a parade of sovereignties recently, protesting against their "second-class" status. They would like to make their political and economic rights equal to those of the republics which form the Federation. The division into provinces (or lands) would naturally be an ideal solution to this problem.

At the moment this is a dream which has nothing to do with reality. There is the Federation Treaty, signed by all the components of the Federation. It has not been repealed. The old assurance given by the president also remains in force: The republics may have as much sovereignty as they can cope with.

Nevertheless, following the October events, politicians from Boris Yeltsin's closest entourage have publicly expressed the idea of the expediency of Russia's new territorial state structure. Intense discussion about equality for all components of the Federation is going on in the working group of the Constitutional Conference at the moment. Which is forcing the republics to seek reciprocal steps, putting off, in particular, the elections to the new representative organs of power until better days.

The ethnic question is not one which should be resolved in haste, using the favorable—from the viewpoint of the presidential team—political situation. Figuratively speaking, having won the first game against the party nomenklatura team on its own field in Moscow, it intends to consolidate its success on its rival's field.

A tied game would be more farsighted in the interests of preserving the Federation's integrity: The center guarantees that the republics will have the sovereignty enshrined in the treaty; the republics for their part support the reform of the local representative authority.

'Blatant Breaches' Alleged in Push for Nominations

PM0511165993 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 Nov 93 First Edition p 1

[Sergey Chugayev report: "People Eager to Get Into Parliament Have No Qualms About Bribing Voters"]

[Text] The signature collection campaign in support of the political organizations and independent candidates determined to take part in the election race is drawing to a close. A number of blocs have already announced that they have obtained the 100,000 or more signatures required to entitle them to continue their fight for seats in the Federal Assembly, but we were told by the Central Electoral Commission that not a single individual candidate had submitted the signatures by midday 4 November.

Meanwhile the signature campaign continues, and it is a tough campaign. It is under way everywhere—in institutions, on the streets, on trains, in underpasses, and even in theater lobbies. It could have been foreseen that given the very tight schedule for candidates to win the initial support of the voters, the lack of any effective mechanisms for monitoring the election campaign, and the legally rather ambiguous situation in Russia following the October events, the authorities would not make a great fuss about breaches of the rules regarding the election preparations.

Information available to the editorial office shows that many candidates are determined to win a seat in the future parliament at all costs. Quite literally so. On their way to work on the morning of 4 November IZVESTIYA staff witnessed supporters of State Duma candidate Yu. Vlasov offering subway passengers 100 rubles [R] each in return for their signature in his support.

Nor are the provinces lagging behind Moscow. According to an RIA report, in Yakutia D. Bubyakin, a former Russian Supreme Soviet deputy, has had no qualms about exploiting student poverty. Representatives of his support group are touring student dorms and paying R100 for a single signature and R2,000 for a complete sheet of signatures. The students, the report says, are happy to sign.

The tried and tested method of managerial pressure continues to be used. A. Aderekhin, our own correspondent for Krasnodar Kray, reports that Ye. Nikitenko, head of the Primorsko-Akhtarskiy Rayon Administration, tried to instruct administration officials to collect signatures in support of Kray Governor N. Yegorov's Federation Council nomination. Admittedly the attempt failed. The apparatus staff refused to carry out their boss' order. Our own correspondent V. Nevelskiy reports from St. Petersburg on how the chief of a territorial production association in the city's housing sector instructed his subordinates to collect signatures in every rayon in support of the Civic Union bloc.

These and many other cases known to the editorial office of blatant breaches of the regulations governing the election campaign show that there is virtually no monitoring of the campaign. Which is not surprising, bearing in mind that most regional election commissions were set up by the disbanded soviets. Incidentally, we have to hope that during the elections themselves Russian voters—very sober-minded people, as the April referendum results showed—will properly assess the efforts of those candidates who consider it acceptable to bribe their way into parliament in order to decide the fate of a great country.

Paper's Deduction About Presidential Election Ridiculed

PM0511155793 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 5 Nov 93 p 1

[Dmitriy Lvov "Rejoinder": "The Journalistic Games of NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA"]

[Text] The skill of the pseudopolitologists in the journalistic fraternity who have perfected the art of making a mountain out of a molehill and finding a hidden political meaning in any fact, even if it is infinitely removed from politics, is growing all the time. An example of the kind of superperspicacity which Sherlock Holmes, Major Pronin, and the CIA all put together might only envy was offered by yesterday's issue of NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA. TASS had reported that on 1 November Boris Yeltsin had moved to a new office in the Kremlin because restoration work had started on the building where he had been working previously, and from that fact the well-considered conclusion is drawn that there exists a Kremlin scenario from which it is known in advance that the new parliament will adopt a decision not to hold an early presidential election.

What is the justification for this major politological "discovery"? Well, it is because of one phrase in the TASS report to the effect that, while the Senate building is undergoing restoration, the president is going to work in the neighboring building, and the restoration will take three to four years. Thus there will be no early presidential election and for that period Boris Yeltsin will remain boss of the president's office. Can you spot the connection between the planned repair of the building and the secret Kremlin plan not to go ahead with anm early presidential election? No, that kind of thing is visible only to a "politologist" brought up under the banner of the most independent newspaper, and it is the lot of the government newspaper ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI, whose publication is cited by NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA, to betray through its stupidity and shortsightedness the "bosses'" innermost secrets.

Incidentally, of the many newspapers which carried the TASS report in question, NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA chose ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI clearly because of some secret love that it nurtures for it. You can also detect the kind of feelings that the author of the NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA rejoinder harbors for the president, because he is so concerned about the problem of an early election, but in the same edition of NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA on the very same page we read that "according to public opinion polls the president and the government's rating has risen sharply," while in the previous issue, which published the October ratings of 100 leading politicians in Russia, Boris Yeltsin is in first place. It is that fact rather than NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA'S love or hate or the restoration of the building which will determine who is going to be boss in the Kremlin office.

Political Issues

Main Changes in New Draft Constitution Highlighted

MK0511170093 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 5 Nov 93 p 1

[Ivan Rodin report in the "Kremlin" rubric: "The New Draft Russian Constitution. Everything Flows, Everything Changes, but the President Is Forever"]

[Text] Within the next few days the draft new constitution prepared by the working group and the chambers of the Constitutional Conference will be published. According to some sources, Boris Yeltsin, who on Wednesday presented the text of the new Fundamental Law to the leaders of the Russian Federation components, will introduce only some changes to it, which will be discussed below. It is known, however, that the section containing the text of the Federation Treaty will not be included in the draft constitution.

In the definition of Russia as a state the word "sovereign" has been dropped, although it is noted that its "sovereignty extends throughout its territory." Article 5, enumerating the Russian Federation components and

their status, no longer contains the phrase "as a federative state," while its constituent components are described as equal. The word "sovereign" has also been deleted from the definition of Russian Federation republics. Article 5 also states that "the federal structure of the Russian Federation is based on its state integrity, the unity of the state power system, and the separation of jurisdiction and powers between the power bodies of the Russian Federation and its components." The latter are deemed equal among themselves with respect to the former. In Article 10, establishing the division of the state power in Russia into the legislative, executive, and judicial branches, the reference to the Federation Treaty has been deleted. The reference to the Federation Treaty remains in the text of the Constitution only in the next article—Article 11.

In Chapter 3 (on federal structure) the article enumerating all of Russia's constituent components has been preserved intact. The article on the components' right to change their name at their own discretion, however, has been excluded from it, as well as from Article 66—the permission to formalize under special treaties the specifics of the status of particular Russian Federation components.

The article on the president says that this post may be occupied by a person not younger than 35, and therefore the upper age limit is not established. As was reported earlier, the president appoints the head of the cabinet which is subject to State Duma approval. The president also decides on the resignation of the government. The text of the Fundamental Law again includes the provision on the Security Council headed by the president. All the other presidential powers approved by the Constitutional Conference on 12 July have remained unchanged. There is a noteworthy amendment in Article 93: In order to remove the president from office the State Duma must level a charge of high treason or another grave crime against him, confirmed by the Supreme Court. Therefore the Constitutional Court has been barred from the impeachment procedure. The quota of deputy votes for impeachment has remained what it was—two-thirds from each chamber.

The powers of the Federal Assembly have changed only inasmuch as concerns amendments in the process of appointing the prime minister. The mechanism for dissolving the lower parliament, as before, is stipulated in two articles (11 and 116) in the chapter on the government. The candidacy of the premier is submitted to the Duma no later than two weeks after the start of its work (this is the old provision) and also after the new president has been inaugurated or the former government has resigned. After three refusals by the State Duma to approve the head of the cabinet, he is appointed by the president without its consent and it dissolves itself. The second possibility for the dissolution of the Duma emerges when it gives a vote of no confidence in the government. The president may keep the latter or disagree with the chamber. If within three months the State Duma again expresses mistrust in the government, the president will have to dismiss either the cabinet or the Duma itself. The Duma may also be dissolved when (such a provision is also recorded in Article 116) the government itself asks it to vote on the issue of confidence in it. If a confidence vote is not passed, the government resigns or the deputies go away—both options are at the president's discretion. The cabinet tenders its resignation not before the new parliament but before the new president. In the chapter on the judicial branch the most changes have affected the Constitutional Court; in particular it is proposed to increase its composition to 21 members. Section 3 on concluding and transition provisions is noteworthy. Thus, for instance, it is written that after the new constitution has taken effect, all its contradictions with the Federation Treaty are resolved in its favor and that the Federation Council and the State Duma of the first convocation are elected to two years, while deputies to the Federation Council of the first convocation may head legislative or executive power bodies of Russian Federation components.

It is expected that Boris Yeltsin may introduce the following changes into the text of the Constitution: to remove the phrase on the irremovability of the judges and to insert in the text a provision on the possibility of combining a ministerial post with a deputy mandate in the State Duma of the first convocation.

Draft Agreed, Publishing 9 Nov

LD0611130093 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1100 GMT 6 Nov 93

[Text] The draft of the new Russian Constitution has been finally agreed and will today be handed over to a special editorial group for final editing, which will not involve any conceptual changes.

This was said at a meeting with journalists by Sergey Filatov, the head of the president's administration. Before 1100 hours on 9 November, after final editing and the president's approval, the text of the new constitution will be handed over for publication in official publications—ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI, ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA, IZVESTIYA, and ARGUMENTY I FAKTY—and will be distributed via ITAR-TASS and INTERFAX channels.

Filatov Briefs Journalists on Draft Constitution

LD0611142593 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1100 GMT 6 Nov 93

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] A meeting on the draft constitution between Sergey Filatov, head of the presidential administration, and journalists was held in the Kremlin today.

Since 19 July, 66 editorial amendments have been made to the draft Russian constitution. As of today, all the major issues in the text of the new basic law have been resolved, Sergey Filatov said. What has been done over

this time? The issue of a mechanism for dividing powers between the federation and component parts of the federation, both horizontally and vertically, has been resolved. The draft notes that component parts of the Federation have to agreed with normative acts adopted at the federal level that fall within their exclusive jurisdiction. Statutes from the federation treaty have been taken out of the draft and included in an addendum to the basic law, since the federation treaty stressed the inequality of component parts of the federation. The editorial commission also came to the conclusion that it is expedient to limit the term of powers of representative bodies of power in the transitional period to two years, until the stabilization of the political situation in the country.

Regarding the president and government: in the new edition, the president makes the decision on the dismissal of the government. The State Duma can also express no-confidence in the Cabinet of Ministers. The government is appointed by the president but with the agreement of the Duma. The cabinet itself lays down its powers only after new presidential elections.

The draft constitution contains a statute increasing the number of judges in the Constitutional Court to 21. Apart from that, the Constitutional Court as an independent state body gives interpretations of the Constitution.

The new basic law will come into force upon publication, and 12 December will be Constitution Day. Sergey Filatov also stressed that in three days, the president will hand the draft basic law to the press.

Further on Filatov Comment

LD0711184093 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1429 GMT 7 Nov 93

[Text] Leader of presidential administration Sergey Filatov reported to Interfax that all principal issues, which have been discussed during the preparation of the draft of the new Constitution, have been agreed. He pointed out that over the past period of time the work over the draft Constitution had necessitated a great volume of "purely editorial" revision. Filatov said that absence of the word "sovereignty" regarding the constituents members was one of the principal amendments introduced into the Constitution.

The Federative treaty, Filatov underlined, has been removed from the draft Constitution and has become a supplement to the Basic Law. He explained the necessity of this move by the fact that the Federative treaty should stress inequality of the constituent members. From now on the principal is in force according to which, any contradictions between the texts of the Constitution and Federative treaty are to be solved in favor of the constitutional provisions.

Filatov said that a very important move towards preserving the state's integrity had been made as a result of a consensus between representatives of various political and public groups who have participated in the development of Russia's Basic Law.

In case the new Constitution is adopted this December during the plebiscite, Russia will become "a republic with a very strong executive power." At the same time Filatov expressed hope that at the December referendum Russians would show appropriate responsibility and awareness. Russia's new Constitution will be adopted in case not less than half of the RF [Russian Federation] citizens will take part in the referendum and not less than a half of them approves the draft of the Basic Law.

Kazannik Says Constitution Needs 'Fundamental Changes'

LD0611220893 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1800 GMT 6 Nov 93

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] General Procurator Aleksey Kazannik today admitted that it was necessary to make fundamental changes to the draft constitution. He said, I am quoting, unless the changes are made, after counting the results of the referendum, perhaps the only thing left for me to do will be to collect the employees of the General Procuracy, send telegrams to local representatives, thank all of them for their service and say goodbye, explaining that there is no such thing as procuracy in Russia anymore. He says that under the present draft constitution, only one function is left to the procuracy—to support state prosecution in court while general supervision of the observance of the law is needed.

Interior Ministry To Police Rally Ban on 7-8 Nov

LD0511213793 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1739 GMT 5 Nov 93

[Text] The Russian law-enforcement bodies will never allow the holding of unauthorized rallies or marches on November 7-8, Deputy Interior Ministry, chief of the body to maintain public order, Aleksandr Kulikov, told Interfax today.

He stated that army units will not be entering Russian cities during those days. "The police have enough strength to maintain order and calm in the federation's cities," he pointed out. No additional or special purpose troops will be involved, the police will function like it usually does, the high officer said.

However, if pro-communist organizations dare to breach the law, trying to hold unauthorized rallies, the law-enforcement bodies will take adequate measures, Kulikov said.

Moscow Militia Prepared

LD0611115193 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1100 GMT 6 Nov 93

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] The Moscow authorities are taking a serious stance on 7 November [anniversary of the Russian revolution]. Special training took place today near the Luzhniki stadium during which Moscow militia and Russian internal sub-units worked out actions to halt mass disorders.

In conversation with an ITAR-TASS correspondent, Russia's Interior Minister Viktor Yerin stressed that he possesses information on possible attempts to destabilize the situation on 7 November in Moscow and other cities. In the opinion of the head of the country's law-enforcement department, should major unsanctioned activities threatening people's safety be held, then the law- enforcement forces will be obliged to take appropriate measures.

Left-Wing Leader Comments

LD0611153293 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1200 GMT 6 Nov 93

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] Unfortunately, it is not known whether things will be calm tomorrow. Sergey Balashov, leader of the banned Working Moscow Movement, told a Postfactum agency correspondent that left-wing and communist organizations, regardless of the ban imposed by the Moscow government, will assemble on Oktyabrskaya Square at 1000 on 7 November.

And, inspite of the ban imposed by the authorities, the communists of St.Petersburg also intend to march along Nevskiy Prospekt tomorrow.

Justice Ministry Issues Warning

LD0611174393 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1622 GMT 6 Nov 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Moscow, 6 Nov—The Russian Justice Ministry has information suggesting that organizations from a number of parties and public movements intend to hold rallies, demonstrations, and other actions in the capital on 6-8 November despite the ban by the city authorities. Among those who are going to take part in these actions are supporters of such organizations as the Workers' Russia movement, the Union of Officers public association, the Russian Communist Workers' Party, the Russian Party of Communists, the Union of Workers of Moscow, the Russian National Unity movement and others.

In this connection the Justice Ministry has announced that if any parties and associations stage such unsanctioned actions they could face abolition in accordance with existing legal procedures.

Rallies Held in Several Far East Cities

LD0711061993 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0420 GMT 7 Nov 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Khabarovsk, 7 Nov—Today 300-400 people held a rally under red flags by the monument to Lenin in Khabarovsk on the occasion of the anniversary of the October Revolution. A collection of funds for the Russian Federation Communist Party election campaign was organized. Anti-presidential slogans were heard. Rallies and gatherings like this one took place in a range of other settlements in Khabarovsk kray. The local authorities did not prevent them.

In Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk at most three hundred people came to Lenin Square on 7 November to speak out or listen to speeches by local communists. In the opinion of local observers, this rally and several others in the oblast are not overly politically significant.

It was not only communists that turned up at the monument to the strugglers for Soviet power in Vladivostok this morning. Inhabitants of the town with monarchist leanings hoisted a white, yellow, and black [imperialist] flag alongside the red banner.

500 Demonstrate in Kaluga Square

LD0711113093 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1000 GMT 7 Nov 93

[Text] Up to 500 people gathered today at a rally, unauthorized by the Moscow authorities, on Kaluga Square in Moscow on the anniversary of the October revolution. Significant militia forces are concentrated near the square. Law and order officers forced the demonstrators into the metro. During this several people wre arrested for resisting militiamen, INTERFAX reports.

Vladimir Vorozhtsev, head of the Russian Internal Affairs Ministry's public relations center, told the agency's correspondent that while forcing demonstrators off Kaluga Square, there were no major incidents. He said to ensure public order, city internal affairs department officers and cadets from many military colleges have been brought to Moscow. Servicemen from Internal Affairs Ministry subunits are in reserve.

Moscow Situation 'Absolutely Calm'

LD0711115993 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1044 GMT 7 Nov 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Pavel Kuznetsov and Aleksandr Chernov]

[Text] Moscow, 7 Nov— Lieutenant General Vladimir Pankratov, head of the Main Directorate for Internal Affairs, has described the situation in the capital this morning as "absolutely calm and manageable." All places of traditional gatherings of rallies of all kinds are

being controlled by militia forces. Moreover, Pankratov stressed, the militia details have not been reinforced. The staff personnel of territorial militia services are patrolling and guarding public order as usual.

Pankratov said in the morning separate groups of citizens had been gathering in Oktyabrskaya Square. They were told the city authorities had banned various political measures. Militia forces had to disperse the most active gatherings. Several people were detained for disturbing public order; however, there were no excesses or gross violations. For an hour and a half ITAR-TASS correspondents "patrolled" the main roads within Sadovoye Koltso. The situation in the areas near Red, Oktyabrskaya, and Vosstaniya Squares are being controlled most carefully.

In front of the entrance to the Gorky Park of Culture and Rest, militiamen are having a practice session on stopping unsanctioned rallies and demonstrations. A militia lieutenant colonel who refused to give his name pointed out that "there have been no protesters around so far, and we are holding exercises only to stop men from freezing." By midday only about 200 old-age pensioners remained on the Oktyabrskaya Square, singing revolutionary songs.

An exemplary order is reigning at the Red Square. The Lenin Mausoleum is opened today for everybody who wants to visit it. Foreigners, as usual, are taking photos of the Kremlin wall and St. Basil's Cathedral. From time to time militiamen let organized groups pass to the Lenin Mausoleum on the side of the "Moskva" hotel to lay wreaths from communist organizations.

Rumyantsev Rejects Electoral Cooperation With Communists

MK0611113093 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian No. 75, 6 Nov 93 (signed to press 6 Nov) p 2

[Yuliya Salnikova report under the "Centrists" rubric: "Oleg Rumyantsev: 'Breathing Was Easier Under Communists.' Father of Russian Social Democrats Calls for Restoring Justice"]

[Text] Oleg Rumyantsev, leader of the Russian Social Democratic Center (RSDC), on 4 November shared with journalists his future plans. Despite the somewhat nostalgic nature of Mr. Rumyantsev's reminiscing about the past, and despite his describing the Civic Union in the Name of Stability, Justice, and Progress (in which the RSDC also takes part) as "an opposition to the grasping and cynical ruling regime," in the words of Mr. Rumyantsev, there is no alliance in the offing with the most zealous adversaries of this regime (Communists, that is to say). The main virtue of the bloc—a wide and qualified representation—enables one "to hope that this particular bloc would form the nucleus of a constructive opposition in the future parliament." The leader of Russian social democrats ruled out the possibility of the bloc's falling apart before the elections: "Despite the fact it brings together a rather mixed bag of individuals, it has figures capable of synthesis rather than of breaking up—like Arkadiy Volskiy, for example." Oleg Rumyantsev does not think the electoral campaign conditions as being quite equitable because "all has been done to discredit the idea of democracy and get rid of popular inspection." Yet Mr. Rumyantsev is motivated in taking part in the elections by, among other things, the circumstance that "the opposition outside parliament in our country will never ever be heard." The set of the RSDC's electoral promises (like the one of the entire bloc for that matter) is sufficiently traditional: support for Russia's production and for a socially oriented economy, an advance toward a constitutional state, and so forth).

In the opinion of the former executive secretary of the Supreme Soviet Constitutional Commission, the new constitution stands "extremely small" chances, while the main characteristics of this draft are "beneath criticism." The best option, in his words, would now be for President Yeltsin to adopt a fundamental law for a transitional period.

Supreme Court Plenary Sitting's Proceedings Reported

PM0811100793 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 4 Nov 93 First Edition p 4

[Unattributed report: "In the Russian Federation Supreme Court"]

[Text] A regular Supreme Court plenum was held under the chairmanship of V.M. Lebedev, chairman of the Russian Federation Supreme Court, which discussed and adopted decrees "On the Time Limits for Russian Federation Courts To Consider Criminal and Civil Cases" and "On Certain Questions Regarding the Application of the Russian Federation Law 'On Privatizing the Housing Stock in the Russian Federation.'"

V.P. Verin, deputy chairman of the Russian Federation Supreme Court, delivered a report on the first question. He noted the emergence of a trend toward noncompliance with the time limits for courts to consider cases and that this is taking place in conditions of an unstable sociopolitical situation, an increase in the crime and conviction rates, and a considerable complication of the categories of both criminal and civil cases. All this, he said, requires the adoption of immediate measures aimed at ensuring strict compliance with procedural time limits, ruling out instances of red tape during a judicial investigation, and raising the quality of the judicial consideration of cases.

In the adopted decree the plenum noted the need for a substantial improvement of certain provisions of currently existing procedural law regulating the procedure and time limits for the judicial consideration of criminal and civil cases, in connection with which it was decided to prepare an appropriate draft law.

A.I. Fedin, member of the Russian Federation Supreme Court, delivered a report on the second item on the

agenda. An analysis of judicial practice of applying the Law "On Privatizing the Housing Stock in the Russian Federation," he said, shows that consideration of citizens' applications regarding questions of privatizing dwellings is citizens' most effective way of protecting their rights provided by this law. At the same time courts are experiencing serious difficulties, primarily caused by the fact that many of the law's provisions are set out in a rather condensed form, without sufficient detail. Neither does the "Specimen Statute on Privatizing the Housing Stock in the Russian Federation" provide any substantial explanations of the housing privatization procedure.

With a view to ensuring the correct and uniform application of the aforementioned law, the plenum adopted a decree giving explanations concerning a number of questions that have arisen in judicial practice. In particular, it says that disputes arising in connection with a citizen's being refused privatization of a dwelling are to be resolved by courts according to the rules of adversary proceedings as civil law disputes; when such applications are brought state fees must be levied at the rate determined by law for statements of claim which are not subject to assessment. But if heirs living separately lay claim to a privatized dwelling, the state fees for their statements of claim are paid according on the dwelling's value.

Because minors who live with the tenant and who are members of his family or former members of the family have, under Article 53 of the RSFSR Housing Code, equal rights ensuing from a rental contract, they have the same right as the adult users to become participants in common ownership to an occupied dwelling should it be privatized without charge.

If a citizen who has submitted a privatization application and the necessary documents dies before the contract transferring ownership of the dwelling has been drawn up or registered, the heirs laying claim to this housing cannot be refused merely on the grounds of the legator's nonobservance of the privatization registration procedure, because this occurred for reasons beyond his control.

Of course, by no means all questions have been resolved by the plenum's decree, especially those associated with the powers of an owner of a privatized dwelling. However, explanations were given on the main problems causing the greatest difficulty in courts' practical work.

Taking part in the plenum's work were Russian Federation General Prosecutor A.I. Kazannik; Russian Federation Justice Minister Yu.Kh. Kalmykov; V.F. Yakovlev, chairman of the Russian Federation Supreme Court of Arbitration; senior officials in interested ministries and departments; leaders of a number of Russian Federation republic supreme courts, kray and oblast courts, and rayon (city) people's courts; and members of the Council of Russian Judges Presidium.

Constitutional Court Chairmanship Crucial

PM0811105593 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 4 Nov 93 First Edition p 5

[Yuriy Feofanov article: "Who Will Be Chairman of the Constitutional Court?"]

[Text] Few people can doubt that a new constitution will be adopted. Drafts abound, discussion follows discussion, and draft-constitution factories are producing away.

The question lies elsewhere: Will this document actually be law? Will that constitutional legality so talked about at sessions of the parliament which is no more gain a foothold in Russia?

The latest draft Constitution, which I hope we will read officially 10 November, designates this type of court (Article 118). Admittedly, all the debates and discussions on Russia's state structure, on federal and regional authorities, and on elections, blocs, and candidates make no no mention of the future legal arbiter. Although the fathers of the impending state system cannot fail to understand that there can be no legality without independent justice. There was in point of fact no legality under either imperial or Soviet power for many reasons, the main one being the deliberate exclusion of legal justice from state life, as an independent trial contraindicates a despotic regime, it destroys the pyramid of one-man power.

In democratic times, two attempts were made to introduce constitutional oversight of governmental and legislative authorities. The USSR Congress of People's Deputies founded the Constitutional Oversight Committee; the Russian Congress founded the Constitutional Court. Both institutions adopted decisions which irritated the "top" authorities. Both lasted for two years only to expire under the screech of tank tracks. But the tanks are merely the exterior trappings.

I do not want to go back to the Union Constitutional Oversight Committee, headed at that time by the famous lawyer Sergey Alekseyev. No amount of effort and courage or diplomacy on his part could have saved the institution: It was the state which disappeared.

It is quite another matter with Russia's Constitutional Court. Its chairman was Valeriy Zorkin, unknown to the general public and a professor from the Internal Affairs Ministry [MVD] Academy. And indeed, even before the Constitutional Court's activities got under way his prestige had begun to soar. Beautiful premises, limousines, security guards, honorary seats in parliament, enormous press coverage. His very first act—to declare the president's edict on merging the MVD and the Security Ministry unlawful—caused a storm of delight. The "third branch of power" had made itself felt as a state legal institution, a juridical brake on the tyranny of the rulers.

Alas, prestige and glory got the upper hand in a way that was "not quite the intention." After the compromise decision on the "CPSU affair," and after the National Salvation Front was legitimized, the Constitutional Court fragmented. But for all that, the "dissenting views" of certain judges by no means signified the collapse of the legal institution itself just yet. Consistent, and then crushing blows to the court's prestige began to be dealt by its chairman, who had become embroiled in political argument and taken up an openly antipresidential stance. Politics superseded law. Hopes that the procedures provided for by law and the direct ban on judges expressing their views from political platforms at at news conferences would keep them within the confines of the law were not vindicated. People took precedence over Principles, and this is very traditional for Russia.

Mikhail Speranskiy took up work on the constitution approximately two centuries ago. He placed his hopes on the force of laws and statutes: "In the presence of a correct, lawful procedure, people will behave accordingly: Even good people, operating under a foolish procedure, will be foolish." He was upbraided by our great historian Karamzin: "We do not need a constitution: Give me 50 intelligent and benevolent governors, and everything will be fine." This debate was regurgitated word for word at the Union Congress of People's Deputies when the post of USSR president was being founded:

Lawyer A. Sobchak: "When resolving the question of introducing presidential rule, we should renounce the idea of specific figures: We should create the kind of system of state power which will function irrespective of who actually occupies which post."

Poet D. Kugultinov: "Deputy Sobchak's speech on how we should renounce people and rely on laws troubled me. There have been many laws, wonderful laws, but there have been very few wonderful people. We do not need a law, but a president—we need a person..."

Unfortunately, this emphasis on personality remains pivotal in elections. So it is that we will look for familiar faces in the party lists, and not programs.

Why then these judgments and historical digressions? The second attempt to introduce a "third branch of power" was dashed not by circumstances, and not by power struggles—but by the judges themselves. I am convinced that any other form of behavior by the chairman would have saved the Constitutional Court.

This, of course, is all over and done with. We are looking at our near future. We are priming candidates for a parliament which, I hope, we will elect 12 December, but what worries me is who we will have as Constitutional Court chairman. Personally, I understand that he will be selected not via universal ballot (at least, I have not heard of anywhere where the head of the judicial branch is elected in this way), but it seems to me that now is the right time to begin discussing both the means of electing the Constitutional Court chairman, and possible candidates.

I am convinced that the chairman should be chosen not from the narrow circle of future judges, but from some kind of broad representative assembly, at a parliament session, say. He should be chosen personally, and the nomination and discussion of possible candidates should begin now. This post should be occupied by a well known, authoritative, and independent lawyer. Recent events prove quite convincingly just how great is the role of this figure.

It is dangerous to assume that the law in Russia will be substantiated only via norms and institution. For now, it is more fitting to rely on personalities. Such, as I have tried to demonstrate, is the tradition and practice. We have no right to risk everything by relying on principles and norms, and less so on the hope that "something will turn up."

If the third attempt to create a constitutional judiciary collapses, then this will signify our inability to set up a law-governed, democratic state. And then the entire election campaign and the battle for seats in parliament will be as good as worthless. As without law and legality, there is no democracy. As democratic power without a law-governed base is nothing more than despotism.

New Edict Trims Security Council's Personnel

MK0611112093 Moscow KOMMERSANT-DAILY in Russian 6 Nov 93 p 2

[Mikhail Lashch, Ilya Bulavinov report: "Edict on Reforming Security Council. President Partly Suspends War on Corruption"]

[Text] According to the edict "On Changes in the Administrative Staff of the Russian Federation Security Council" officially circulated yesterday, the structure of Russia's Security Council has been altered once more. Interestingly, the new edict speaks about cuts in the Council's administrative staff.

The Council's administrative staff was the most complicated in structure and the smallest in number under Yuriy Skokov. It numbered 80. When the Council's secretary was Marshal Shaposhnikov, the total number of personnel was 150, with 117 of its members having been responsible officials. Under the new edict, the Council's administrative staff gets downsized by 20, and the number of responsible officials on it will now be 100.

The edict eliminates the position of aide to the Security Council secretary. This post is being replaced by two deputy secretary positions now filled by Valeriy Manilov, who came along together with Shaposhnikov from the Joint Armed Forces High Command, and Aleksandr Troshin, former deputy economy minister. Now there will be three deputy secretaries each to supervise his own area which are yet to be defined by Oleg Lobov.

KOMMERSANT-DAILY observers note a diminution in the status of the Interdepartmental Commission for Combating Crime and Corruption. Absent from the new structure of the Council is its logistics administration headed earlier by Andrey Makarov. This administration took virtually no part in the Council's activities, as it provided the president with material on officials in his entourage.

According to members of the Council's administrative staff, Makarov's administration managed to bring in specialists experienced in investigation of corruption among chiefs of the executive branch, and its entire work consisted of detecting illegal activities of high-ranking officials. Although the department has been eliminated, the need for appropriate political-legal support of the commission for the combating of corruption is hardly there.

Military & Space Issues

Manilov Comments on New Military Doctrine

LD0511174293 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1405 GMT 4 Nov 93

[By ITAR-TASS military observer Andrey Naryshkin]

[Text] Moscow, 4 Nov—Russia's approach to questions of the use of nuclear weapons, as reflected in its first Military Doctrine, has aroused very acute interest in the West. This is understandable: interpretations in the last few days of some parts of the document which is not to be published varied considerably and gave no answer to some fundamental questions. Meanwhile, the approach to nuclear security issues declared by Russia in its Military Doctrine is quite simple, unequivocal, and clear to everyone in the West since it is covered by the well-known term "nuclear deterrence."

However, let us turn to the source. The "Political Bases of Russian Military Doctrine" say that in evaluating the strategic nature of possible hostilities the Russian Federation proceeds from an understanding that the immediate threat of nuclear war has been reduced to a minimum. But as long as the nuclear arsenals have not been eliminated by all the states, the possibility of unleashing nuclear war should be taken into consideration.

It is especially emphasized that "the objective of the Russian Federation's policy in the field of nuclear armaments is to eliminate the danger of nuclear war and use of nuclear weapons by deterring the unleashing of aggression against the Russian Federation and its allies. The Russian Federation will not use its nuclear weapons against any member of the 1968 Nuclear Non- Proliferation Treaty which does not possess nuclear armaments except in two cases:

- an armed attack by such a state bound by an agreement of alliance with another country which possesses nuclear weapons against the Russian Federation, its territory, its armed forces and other troops, or against its allies;

- joint action between such a state and a state which possesses nuclear armaments in carrying out or supporting invasion or an armed attack against the Russian Federation, its territory, its armed forces and other troops, or against its allies."

Lieutenant General Valeriy Manilov, deputy secretary of the Russian Security Council, said in an interview with an ITAR-TASS observer: "Russia sees the final aim of its policy in the nuclear sphere as being to make the regime of nonproliferation of nuclear weapons universal, to reduce consistently nuclear arsenals and, in the long-term, to destroy them completely on a mutual basis." It seems that this statement can be taken very seriously. The wording cited above, on the one hand can hasten the accession to the 1968 Treaty by the states of the CIS and Eastern Europe and, on the other hand, keep them out of the orbit of influence of NATO and the WEU [Western European Union].

Thus, Russia retains the right to make a first nuclear strike against territories, troops, or military installations of an aggressor state even if the latter does not possess nuclear weapons but is under the "nuclear umbrella" of some ally or military-political bloc. This is not evidence of "Russia's aggressiveness" but only recognition of the fact that Russia differs from the former USSR in not having such powerful conventional forces and armaments which would make it possible to cope with any military threats without using nuclear weapons.

This is indeed a fundamentally new approach for Russia but it has long been reflected in the doctrines of the NATO countries, including the United States. At the same time a question remains - what about the obligation "not to be the first to use nuclear weapons" undertaken at a time by the political leadership of the former USSR? The answer is very simple: since such an approach is at variance with the task of nuclear deterrence, Russia does not declare it any more. In this connection suffice it to recall that none of the states which possess nuclear weapons has clearly expressed a stance on its non-use in their doctrines.

Military Doctrine in Force, Still Unpublished

PM0511160793 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 6 Nov 93 First Edition p 1

[Edict No. 1833 of the Russian Federation President "On the Fundamental Tenets of Russian Federation Military Doctrine," dated 2 November 1993, The Kremlin, Moscow and signed by Russian Federation President B. Yeltsin]

[Text] On the basis of the Russian Federation Law "On Defense" I decree that:

1. The fundamental tenets of the Russian Federation military doctrine (attached) (Footnote 1)("not being distributed") are to be adopted.

2. The present edict is to be submitted for examination by the Russian Federation Federal Assembly.

3. The present edict enters into effect from the moment it is signed.

[signed] B. Yeltsin, President of the Russian Federation
[Dated] The Kremlin, Moscow, 2 November 1993

Grachev Explains Purpose of Staff Exercises

LD0511200593 Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian 1800 GMT 5 Nov 93

[From the "Novosti" newscast]

[Text] The first Russia-wide command and staff exercises have been under way for five days now, effectively under high security conditions, during which work is being carried out on individual provisions which are enshrined in Russia's military doctrine, which has been adopted by the Security Council; including the provision on cooperation between all government departments and facilities, the Ministry of Defense, the defense industry and other main ministries.

Our film crew was invited to the command post, where we were able to record an exclusive interview with Russian Defense Minister Pavel Grachev:

[Begin recording] [Correspondent Dzhafarov] Pavel Sergeyevich, could you give us a brief description of the aims and objectives of these maneuvers, these staff exercises which are currently under way, because very little is known about them.

[Grachev] At these exercises we are working on a number of basic matters. The first stage is to work on matters relating to switching the armed forces from a peacetime to a wartime footing. The second stage of the exercises is planning and conducting defensive operations. The third stage of the exercises is the stage we are at today, namely planning and conducting counter-offensive and offensive operations. Other heavyweight ministries are taking part in these wide-ranging staff exercises, by which I mean the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Ministry of Security, and the heads of the military industry, as well as heads who are responsible for mobilization readiness in their regions. [end recording]

Further on Exercise

PM0511201993 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 6 Nov 93 p 1

[Report by Nikolay Poroskov of KRASNAYA ZVEZDA and Dmitriy Kushnir of Air Forces Press Center: "Operational-Strategic Command and Staff Exercise Ends"]

[Text] It took place 1 through 5 November under the leadership of Army General Pavel Grachev, Russian Federation defense minister. The main staffs of branches of the services and the staffs of categories of forces, military districts and fleets, and formations were involved in the exercise.

Its purpose—improving the command and control of the Armed Forces—was achieved. Its results will be used to elaborate new approaches to the coduct of combat operations, which will subsequently enter the manuals.

On 5 November, at the final stage of the exercise, at the Air Forces training command post in the Yu.A. Gagarin Air Force Academy, the defense minister listened to a report by Air Forces Colonel General Petr Deynekin, commander in chief of the Air Forces, on utilizing aviation in conjunction with other branches of the services in modern combat operations.

The defense minister noted that the Russian Army is clearly acquiring a modern aspect and is capable of resolving the complex tasks of the country's defense.

'Cosmos-2267' Launched 5 Nov From Plesetsk

LD0511180593 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1654 GMT 5 Nov 93

[Text] Moscow November 5 TASS—An artificial earth satellite Cosmos-2267 was launched today from the Plesetsk space launching grounds by the Soyuz rocket booster to continue space exploration.

According to information of the ground mission control center, the satellite was put into orbit with the following parameters:

—The initial period of rotation - 89.0 minutes;

—the maximum distance from the earth surface (in the apogee) - 279 kilometers;

—the minimum distance from the earth surface (in the perigee) - 198 kilometers;

—the inclination of the orbit - 70.4 degrees.

In addition to scientific equipment the satellite carries a radio system for precise measurement of the orbit elements and a radiotelemetric system to transfer to the earth data on functioning of devices and scientific equipment.

The on-board equipment is functioning normally.

The coordination-computer center is processing the incoming information.

Mir Space Crew Continues Experiments

LD0511195593 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 0940 GMT 5 Nov 93

[Text] Flight Control Center, 5 Nov (ITAR-TASS)—Vasiliy Tsibliyev and Aleksandr Serebrov are continuing their lengthy flight on board the Mir space station.

Two experiments have been conducted as part of the space materials study program. Another monocrystal from a semiconductor material, germanium, has been obtained in the "Optizon" electric heating oven. The aim of the second technological experiment, "Migmas", was to devise new methods for diagnosing the state of construction materials in space flight conditions.

Today's program includes geophysical, technological, and astrophysical experiments. During the day, the crew will carry out work on the technical servicing of the equipment of the station's life support system.

According to the results of a comprehensive medical check-up, carried out with the use of the "Chibis" vacuum suit, which simulates Earth gravity, both cosmonauts' state of health is good.

Media Issues

Paper Re-Registered; Editor Thanks Supporters

MK0511164093 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 5 Nov 93 p 1

[Vitaliy Tretyakov report: "NEZAVISIMAYA Has Been Re-Registered. New Founder—Editors"]

[Text] As was publicly advised yesterday by Mr. David Tsabriya, Russian first deputy minister of the press and information, the re-registration of NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA has taken place at long last.

The new founder of the newspaper, under Article 18 of the Russian Federation Law on the Mass Media, is the staff of NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA.

On behalf of the NEZAVISIMAYA staff I sincerely thank everyone who showed concern these days over our newspaper's fate: readers, journalists of other publications, Russian and foreign politicians, international organizations. Allow me to assure you that your concern and your actions have not been in vain—they have truly, and maybe decisively, helped NEZAVISIMAYA preserve its professional status.

As for us, we will continue to work in the same manner we have been working all these three years starting from the appearance of the first issue of NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA.

[Signed] Vitaliy Tretyakov

'Underground' Issue of Banned DEN Published

PM0811110793 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 5 Nov 93 p 1

["Own Information" report: "We Did What We Could To Ban DEN"]

[Text] An underground issue of DEN came out yesterday after a one-month gap. The newspaper's name was missing from the front page. On the other hand, "Chief Editor Prokhanov" was printed in large type. The whole issue is devoted to the events in Moscow on 3-4 October through the eyes of DEN journalists.

The newspaper's Executive Secretary Yevgeniy Nefedov said that it was difficult to bring the paper out. The ban on printing newspapers on that topic and with the actual name DEN was a hindrance. After "scouring" the whole of Russia we reached agreement with a printing house. Yevgeniy Nefedov went on, but I cannot identify it, because there is a circular preventing the publication of newspapers in a democratic country. Will the courts help DEN?

DEN Reappears in Minsk

MK0611140093 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 6 Nov 93 p 2

[Anna Ostapchuk report under the "The Press" rubric: "DEN Has Reappeared Underground, but Its Journalists Will Publish a New Conservative Newspaper"]

[Text] The newspaper DEN has reappeared following a five-week hiatus—not in Moscow, but in Minsk. As a special issue of the "independent left-wing newspaper MY I VREMYA [WE AND TIME]." "Taking part in preparing the issue were Aleksandr Prokhanov and other Moscow authors," says part of the issue's leader. Talking with your NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA correspondent, DEN editor Aleksandr Prokhanov explained this novelty by the fact that the Belarusian Press House, where the publication that has provided refuge for the newspaper of spiritual opposition is printed, categorically opposed the idea that the "demonized" word DEN should appear on the title page. Thus the editors had to use the only remaining identification alternative.

The Moskovskiy District court the newspaper's chiefs appealed to rejected their suit. Several Russian publications about to give it some of their space out of solidarity finally decided against having anything to do with the newspaper regarded by the authorities as having an offensive reputation. The publication in Minsk succeeded only on the fifth attempt.

The layout for the 1 November MY I VREMYA "special edition" was done by DEN's secretariat, with the result that the product looks familiar. Its authors hope that the print run of 60,000 copies, if it does not make it to its subscribers, will sell out easily: "Patriot-distributors are ready to back the newspaper with their work."

On the other hand, as Prokhanov remarked, the editors are not going to cling to DEN at all which, in his opinion, "died on the White House barricades." After two or three "transitional" issues, the opposition journalists intend to start publication of a new newspaper, still upholding the conservative ideology but whose conception would take into account the blood spilled." [no opening quotation mark as published]

A. Prokhanov declined to answer one question—on where the next issue is to appear. "It might be already in Serbia for all I know," the patriot writer mysteriously remarked.

IZVESTIYA To Publish TV Supplement

PM0811100593 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 6 Nov 93 First Edition p 1

[Unattributed announcement: "Everything About Television—in Special Issues of IZVESTIYA"]

[Text] This pull-out supplement will appear in the newspaper in the first days of 1994, but we want to announce it before the end of the present subscription. The future reader will probably be interested to learn what new material will appear in IZVESTIYA.

So imagine that once a week you receive—most likely on Friday—a not entirely usual issue of our newspaper. It contains 16 pages and eight of them, differing from the rest even in the color of the paper, are devoted to television and only to television. Essentially it will be like a small newspaper inside a large one: IZVESTIYA-TV.

What will you be able to read in it? First of all the television program for the forthcoming week. We realize very well how useful this material is to the reader and so, first, we allocate an entire newspaper page to it and, second, we will lay it out in a new way so that the television programs guide is simple, vivid, and understandable (we intend to recruit specialists in this important matter for the purpose).

The remaining pages of our supplement will be "everything about television." Television is such an important part of our life that it seems simply inconceivable without it today. That means that is should occupy a special place in the newspaper. The television department created in the editorial office is designed to "provide the wherewithal" for this place. In issuing the weekly IZVESTIYA-TV it will become your guide, decoding the television program and telling you what is what and who is who in this program.

IZVESTIYA's television critics and observers will answer questions of interest to you:

How do the creators of television programs and films work?

What happens in the corridors of state and independent television companies—and not only in the capital?

What kind of life does a television star have—before and after the program?

Why do critics rave over a program you do not like?

Is an objective popularity rating possible?

What can television archives reveal that is unexpected and even unlikely?

The "blue screen" and your health—is there a connection here and what is it?

What is there that is new and sensational in the television of far-off and nearby foreign parts?

In brief, everything about television and everything for you.

We remind readers that the IZVESTIYA subscription campaign held by organizations of the Ministry of Communications ends 10 November.

The cost of IZVESTIYA is 1,800 rubles for six months or 300 rubles for a month. In addition there are mail charges for the newspaper's delivery to your home.

Regional Affairs

Shumeyko in Kaliningrad To Study Economy

LD0511131593 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 2257 GMT 4 Nov 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondnet Valeriy Biryukov]

[Text] Kaliningrad, 5 Nov— "Since I have decided to monitor Kaliningrad Oblast, I promise to do this for as long as I remain a deputy prime minister of the government," Vladimir Shumeyko, who arrived here on Thursday to study the west Russian region's socioeconomic situation, said.

A meeting of the government delegation with the oblast leadership took place on the morning of 4 November. The first deputy prime minister spoke in favor of solving all issues urgently at an interstate level. Also, he spoke in favor of urgently adopting the Russian Federation president's decree on the oblast's special status, which would invest the enclave with greater legal and economic independence without waiting for the future Federal Assembly to adopt a relevant law.

On the first day of his visit the first deputy prime minister familiarized himself with the operation of the Yantar shipyard, a conversion enterprise. In the evening he met the command of the army, Baltic Fleet, and border troops stationed here. Talking to the military, Shumeyko stressed the need to consolidate in legislation the presence of Russian Armed Forces on the territory in order that "in future this fact should not become a permanent politically contentious issue" for the neighbors.

Late on Thursday the first deputy prime minister spoke live on local television and answered questions from Kaliningrad residents.

To Run for Federation Council Seat

LD0511220493 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1906 GMT 5 Nov 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Valeriy Biryukov]

[Text] Kaliningrad November 5 TASS—Russia's First Vice-Premier Vladimir Shumeyko has agreed to run for a seat in the Federation Council, the upper chamber of the Russian parliament as a candidate from the Kaliningrad region, Russia's Baltic enclave.

He told ITAR-TASS during his tour of the region that the territory had good prospects for dynamic development, but the solution to numerous economic an social problems depended to a considerable degree on the legislature and the executive, where he is willing and ready to represent and defend the interests of his voters if they place their confidence in him.

On Friday, Shumeyko looked into the state of the ports in the region. He told the leaders of the region that the creation of a major transport sector in the Baltics was one of the priority directions in the development of the Yantar (Amber) free economic zone here.

The vice-premier inspected the site where a new deep-water trade port is expected to be built, visited some warships of the Baltic Fleet and met sailors of the local naval garrison to discuss a wide range of questions relating to the future of the fleet and pzrovisions for officers and their families.

Comments on Media Privatization

LD0511193093 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1700 GMT 5 Nov 93

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] Vladimir Shumeyko, who is presently in Kaliningrad Oblast, gave an interview today in which, according to an RIA report, he said that Russia has no need of two state television channels. Vladimir Shumeyko believes that one of the channels now in existence should be given the status of a national channel and should be financed out of contributions by various commercial bodies and not out of the federal budget.

Favors Support, Not Subsidies for Media

LD0611200993 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1600 GMT 6 Nov 93

[Text] Vladimir Shumeyko, first deputy prime minister and acting information and press minister, who is ending his visit to Kaliningrad Oblast, held a meeting with journalists today. He said he is in favor of state support, not subsidies, for the mass media, according to ITAR-TASS.

In the deputy prime minister's opinion, the electronic mass media, which are working on an outdated basis, must be reorganized urgently. Shumeyko believes that Russia does not need three state television channels - one is sufficient. The others should become national, joint-stock companies, although the controlling package must be retained in the state's hands - not for control but to ensure a single policy on issues of technology.

Kokoshin Visits Defense Enterprises in Omsk

LD0611111093 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 0811 GMT 6 Nov 93

[Excerpts] One of the sections of Russia's military doctrine, which was approved this week, deals with military-technical issues. The chief aim in this sphere is to provide materiel and supply effective weapon systems as well as military and specialized equipment to the armed forces and other troops. Our observer Viktor Levin reports how the Russian Defense Ministry is going to tackle this task under the present conditions.

[Levin] I had a chance to accompany Andrey Kokoshin, the first deputy defense minister, on his trip to Omsk, where he visited two major defense enterprises. One of them was the industrial association Polet. After a tour of the enterprise and conversations with its leaders and workers, Andrey Kokoshin said the following:

[Begin Kokoshin recording] This is one of the most interesting firms operating in the sphere of elaborate scientific research. In the extremely difficult conditions of our country's economic crisis, this firm has succeeded in becoming a really diversified and developing production lines that previously were forced to stop for some time. The company has maintained high quality standards and advanced technologies; it has managed not only to retain its own highly qualified specialists but also to recruit more of them from a whole range of other enterprises. Therefore, I personally envisage a great future for this firm. [end recording] [passage omitted]

[Levin] I would like to draw your attention to the following point: During his visit to the Polet association and to the tank works, Kokoshin did not try to conceal the fact that there is no money at the moment sufficient to enable defense enterprises to work at full capacity. However, demand for their products will certainly grow in light of the new military doctrine, because without them the armed forces will not be able to fulfill their task of ensuring security. Therefore, it is important to be far-sighted and keep all the cadres, the intellectual potential of defense enterprises. With this purpose in mind, the Defense Ministry has decided to increase the salaries of the more valuable specialists in the defense industry, paying the difference out of its own funds; the government has supported the measure.

Andrey Kokoshin also said that the Defense Ministry was just about managed to make ends meet, that there

were lots of holes in its budget, and that it was allocated the same amount of money for 1994 as this year. [passage omitted]

Sverdlovsk To Abide by Decision on Ural Republic

LD0511131993 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1000 GMT 5 Nov 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Nadezhda Potapova]

[Text] Yekaterinburg November 5 TASS—"In spite of the fact that the draft of the new Russian constitution mentions no Urals Republic, we shall go on building it up de facto and shall gradually arrive at its de jure recognition," head of the Sverdlovsk Regional Administration Eduard Rossel told a press conference here today.

Insofar as the regional council's recent decision to raise the region's status to the level of a republic had produced a negative reaction in the centre, the governor of the region announced his intention to ask the regional council to hold a local referendum on December 12 to find out whether or not the electors approve of the "Constitution of the Urals Republic", recently endorsed by the council, and also to fix the elections of the region's governor for that date.

Miners Support Ural Republic

PM0811113993 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 5 Nov 93 p 2

[Igor Petrov report: "Political Promissory Notes Have To Be Paid"]

[Text] INTERFAX reported that Afsad Masayev, chairman of the Sverdlovsk territorial committee of the miners trade union, has said that if the federal authorities take steps to exert "outright administrative pressure" on the self-proclaimed Ural Republic with a view to banning it, you can rely on miners to support the republic's leadership.

It is not clear what prompted the trade union leader's concern for the future of the local leadership which, as far as I know, no one has any intention of overthrowing either directly or indirectly, but it would evidently be nonetheless interesting to find out the kind of economic support that Ural miners (or, to be more precise, Afsad Masayev who speaks on their behalf) could offer the oblast budget.

According to specialists at the "Rosugol" state enterprise, this region's coal field is notable for its particularly complex geological conditions and is therefore an unpromising one.

Virtually all the 18 mines in this oblast were built before the war and have largely exhausted their stocks. Subsidies per ton of coal extracted exceed the sectoral average. These mines' and strip mines' contribution to the country's total coal is less than modest. Whereas "Rosugol" as a whole extracted 244.8 million tons of coal in the first nine months of the year, the "Chelyabinskugol" Association produced 9.3 million tons, "Vakhrushevugol"—3.4 million tons, and the "Yuzhnyy Kuzbass" Joint-Stock Company's strip mines—8.3 million tons.

There is still a big question mark as to whether the self-proclaimed Ural Republic will be able to allocate around 120 billion rubles in subsidies for coal extraction and to maintain the pits' functionability. You do not have to be a great analyst to assume that the leadership of Sverdlovsk Oblast will have to endure tremendous economic problems in return for political dividends.

Views on Ural Republic Differ

PM0811125093 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 5 Nov 93 p 2

[Lyubov Tsukanova report: "The Ural Republic or Sverdlovsk Oblast as Before? This Question Is Answered Variedly in Yekaterinburg and Moscow"]

[Text] The coming into force of the Constitution of the Ural Republic has been announced officially in Yekaterinburg. To recap: The formation of a republic within the administrative borders of Sverdlovsk Oblast was proclaimed at the beginning of July 1993 by a decision of the oblast soviet, and the oblast soviet went on to vote for the draft Constitution of the "22d republic within the Russian Federation" 27 October.

Sverdlovsk Oblast is the first among Federation components of its kind to raise its status unilaterally. However, if you recall the "parade of sovereignties" by Russian republics, which had proclaimed themselves independent states "within the Russian Federation" some time beforehand by means of the very same unilateral procedure, then the actions of the people of Sverdlovsk look more like the continuation of a trend, although, admittedly, under new conditions and for a different purpose—not so much to assert its own autonomy, as to distribute this autonomy more evenly, first and foremost in the economic sphere.

It should be noted that the people of the Urals have by no means acted in a partisan manner. Having proclaimed a republic, they appealed quite legally to the Congress of People's Deputies with a request that the fait accompli be recognized. With the Congress' disappearance this constitutional initiative was left hanging, and a new appeal was sent to the Constitutional Conference that it "take account" of the new republic in the draft of the future Fundamental Law. The reaction to this appeal by the public chamber of the Constitutional Conference is well known. Its members deem the "spontaneous emergence of republics" unacceptable, on the grounds of the danger of strengthening centrifugal forces and Russia's disintegration. However, the public chamber proposed that the Russian Federation president make provision in the final draft Constitution for a mechanism to alter the

status of "any Russian Federation component." The unacceptability of a unilateral change of status is also mentioned in the "Declaration on Russia's State Integrity," prepared by Presidential Council member Leonid Smirnyagin. Here he is thinking of the raising of the status not only of oblasts and krays, but also of republics within the Russian Federation: The lawful procedure "has so far not been followed by a single republic." Premier Viktor Chernomyrdin reacted adversely to the self-proclamation of the Ural Republic: "As far as I am concerned, there is no such republic, and we will have nothing to do with it—although I hope I am not offending anybody here," he said, reproaching the ambitious streak of "certain figures who want... to play at chiefs." He referred to the president's view in this connection.

However, Boris Yeltsin, as expected, did not react directly to the Ural Constitution. His remarks at the 2 November enlarged Council of Ministers session can be considered an indirect reaction. Describing regional policy as a "weak point" in the federal government's activity, the president said: "It is no surprise therefore that Federation components are trying to resolve this question autonomously, including the means of raising their own status. It is simply naive," he added, "to see only the ambitions of local leaders and political elites in this." Thus the president, although he did not support "unilateral actions," did not unreservedly condemn them either. At any rate, it would seem that the President's Administration is not planning any administrative measures of influence against the "disturbers of the peace."

Meanwhile, people in Yekaterinburg are confident that they are acting in complete accord with the Russian Federation president's edict on stage-by-stage constitutional reform and subsequent edicts on the reform of local organs of power. "We are fulfilling the edict," Oblast Soviet Chairman Anatoliy Grebenkin told ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI's correspondent, "if you like, with a Ural coloring. This consists in the fact that we are demonstrating greater resolve in our actions. It should not be forgotten that a capacity for resolute action is a characteristic not only of us who live in the Ural Region, but also of certain former inhabitants of the Ural lands." Anatoliy Grebenkin announced that elections to the new organ of representative power are scheduled for 12 December (by edict of the president—from December through March), a statute on the elections has been published, the formation of electoral blocs is in progress, and electoral programs are being published. The Ural Republic intends to collaborate with the federal authorities, including the future Federal Assembly, according to the regular system. "In general, everything is progressing normally. We are getting on with our work," was the concluding comment of the chairman of an oblast soviet which is nearing the end of its "historic journey."

Where will the new journey embarked on by yesterday's Sverdlovsk Oblast lead to, and how will it progress? One thing is for sure: It will not be easy or straightforward. More rights means more responsibility, and this responsibility is first and foremost economic. Also at the enlarged Council of Ministers session, Viktor Chernomyrdin reminded the leaders of executive authorities in the localities: "Right now, the entire burden of responsibility lies with you. At the moment... there is in practice nobody with whom to share that responsibility." This presumably applies equally to the leaders of all regions, whether they call themselves republics, oblasts, or autonomies...

Local Government Roundtable Held in Kislovodsk

LD0711164593 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 0604 GMT 7 Nov 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Nikolay Styazhkin]

[Text] Kislovodks November 7 TASS—Problems of local governments in Russia were discussed at a roundtable meeting of the Union of Russian Cities which ended in Kislovodsk on Sunday.

The meeting was attended by heads of regional administrations, representatives of managing structures and public movements from over 60 Russian cities.

Participants in the meeting worked out proposals and addressed them to Russian President Boris Yeltsin. The proposals envisage that bodies of local government be established and should operate in regions in the framework of their competence in concord with structures of the state power rather than under their dictatorship, provided that local governments are not appointed, but freely elected.

Regions Progress Toward Elections Varies

PM0511153593 Moscow ROSSIYSKIYE VESTI in Russian 5 Nov 93 p 1

[Reports by correspondents Andrey Illarionov (Novosibirsk), Gennadiy Belotserkovskiy (Rostov-na-Donu), Aleksandr Bulygin (Krasnodar), and Valeriy Golovin (Khabarovsk); under the rubric "Regions Before Elections"]

[Text] **Candidates' Impatience and Voters' Slowness**

Novosibirsk—Judging by articles in the local press, the election campaign for the Duma is in full swing in the oblast. Novosibirsk democrats turned out to have so much untapped energy that they even almost split into two blocs—"Russia's Choice-1" and "Russia's Choice-2." Novosibirsk Oblast has, however, also proved a favorite arena for left-wing candidates: Vasiliy Lipitskiy, chairman of the Civic Union Executive Committee, is trying to gather the necessary number of signatures for nomination here, and an attempt is being made to nominate Ilya Konstantinov, nowadays relaxing in Lefortovo, as candidate for Novosibirsk.

However, right-wingers, left-wingers, and centrists, for all their external activity, are somehow in no hurry to

turn up at the electoral commission with the prepared lists confirming the collection of the necessary number of signatures for nomination. The rapidly approaching deadline for the presentation of such lists gives the organizers grounds for concern that some of the candidates could miss the boat.

This is why in some places extremely dubious methods of election campaign organization have been set in train. One enterprising activist collected signatures for his candidate right in the city center. Signatures were being collected from patients in the surgical ward of the hospital right before their operations. These incidents are now being investigated.

Meanwhile, in the 40 days remaining until the elections, voters too must display the maximum effort not only to understand the new election mechanism but also to investigate as thoroughly as possible the candidates' programs. It is essential that the people's elected representatives should be capable of resolving Russia's numerous problems.

Older Generation Shows Marked Activity

Rostov-na-Donu—A group of independent sociologists attached to the Don Student League recently formed in Rostov-na-Donu has held a poll among various categories of citizens. From this poll it follows that 72 percent of those who have the right to vote will take part in the elections—more than in the April referendum. The unexpected issue here is that representatives of the older generation are showing marked activeness.

Preference for Common Sense

Krasnodar—Members of the Krasnodar City Economic Council—10 leaders of joint-stock companies and six general directors of major enterprises in the kray center—have called on their colleagues to offer every assistance to the city and rayon administrations and to the electoral commissions in providing organizational and technical support for the elections. Economic leaders who are well known in the Kuban have publicly stated their position. They see the path to stabilization and the improvement of the people's lives in the reduction of political confrontation, the formulation of conciliatory processes, and the elaboration of joint approaches to the realization of democratic transformations in Russia.

Expressing readiness to meet any candidate for discussion, the authors stated that they will support those candidates for the State Duma whose program and real actions are aimed at achieving political, social, and interethnic concord in society and stabilization in the economy.

The Chairman Leaves, the Deputies Remain. For now...

Khabarovsk—The Khabarovsk Kray Soviet Inner Soviet has fixed the date of new elections for the local representative organ for 6 March. Soviet Chairman I. Tsvetkov's suggestion that they be combined with the elections for the federal organs of power was not passed. Tsvetkov himself subsequently announced his resignation. But this was considered no more than a minor sensation.

However, for the people's deputies presiding in the Inner Soviet this timetable for the new elections gives an opportunity to "do some governing" for a few more months. Hence words about the lofty duty of the people's representatives and their rich experience were heard again at the kray parliament's last session, held Monday. But the Amur region inhabitants are bewildered as to what their practical tasks actually are, seeing that many functions have passed to the executive authority.

Muscovites Unfamiliar With Candidates

MK0611120093 Moscow KURANTY in Russian 6 Nov 93 p 2

[Report by Oleg Savelyev under the "Social Barometer" rubric: "Candidates, Hello!"]

[Text] From 1 to 3 November 1993, the Moscow branch of the All-Russian Center for the Study of Public Opinion (Komkon-2) conducted a snap poll among 1,303 Muscovites. The breakdown of answers to some of the questions asked during that survey with regard to the upcoming elections is expressed in percentage points:

"Some of the Federal Assembly deputies will be elected by party lists, others according to conventional rules in electoral districts. Do you know a person whom you would like to see as your district's deputy? If the answer is 'yes,' is he (she) running in your district?"

Yes I do, and he (she) is running	1
Yes I do, but he (she) is not running	6
There is no such person	93

"For which candidate for the Russian Federal Assembly would you rather cast your vote: the one who will be guided in his (her) activity by the interests of Russia as a whole, or the one who will be guided by the interests of his (her) electoral district?"

By the interests of Russia as a whole	76
By the interests of his (her) electoral district	10
Do not know	14

"For a candidate with government experience, or for a person who has not worked in government authorities?"

For one who has such experience	50
For a new person	26
Do not know	24

Bashkortostan Parliament Schedules Elections

PM0811101993 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 6 Nov 93 First Edition p 2

[Report by Sergey Kudryashov: "Bashkortostan Will Have Professional Parliament and Its Own President"]

[Text] Ufa—A routine session of the Bashkortostan Supreme Soviet has adopted decrees on reforming the system of organs of power and scheduling elections of the republic's president.

It has been decided to transform the supreme representative organ of power into a permanent parliament working on a professional basis. The Supreme Soviet has lifted its own moratorium on elections to the supreme and local organs of power and scheduled the election of the Bashkortostan president for 12 December.

Criticizes Draft Constitution

MK0611132093 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 6 Nov 93 p 1

[Radik Batyrshin report in the "Bashkortostan" column: "On 12 December the Republic's First President Will Be Elected. The Bashkortostan Supreme Soviet Opposes Draft Russian Constitution"]

[Text] Bashkortostan Supreme Soviet deputies have scheduled elections of the republic's first president for 12 December. Under the law, the republic's president is the supreme official in the Bashkortostan Republic and head of the executive branch. A presidential candidate must live in the republic for no less than 10 years, be certified by an independent medical commission, and know two state languages—Bashkir and Russian. The language qualification aroused objections on the part of Tatar and Russian deputies in the Bashkortostan Supreme Soviet, but that objection was removed by a remark from Supreme Soviet Chairman Murtaza Rakhimov: "Do you really think that Bashkir can today become a state language? Just try to translate the strength of materials theory into Bashkir." Just as easily, the provision on the republic's vice president was inserted into the law on the Bashkortostan president. Practically all the deputies agreed that the future president must be a guarantor of Bashkortostan's sovereignty. "The president must have powers so that we do not become a regional autonomy," Murtaza Rakhimov stressed.

On 5 October the official presidential election race began in Bashkortostan. "To preserve stability, civil and interethnic accord, to maintain the economy at least in its present state and to prevent the full impoverishment of the people"—such are the election slogans of the main candidate, the republic's Supreme Soviet Chairman Murtaza Rakhimov. "I cannot promise a better life after my election," he stressed in an interview with NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA. His main rival, "Vostok" Bank Chairman Rafis Kadyrov, before the presidential election date was called, promised the Supreme Soviet deputies to preserve their powers until the end of their tenure in spite of the republic's constitution and the law on Bashkortostan's State Assembly, which were adopted in their fist reading on 4 October. Under these documents, the new republican parliament—the State Assembly—will consist of two chambers. The upper chamber will adopt the budget and constitutional laws and will include representatives from the republic's cities and districts, while the lower chamber will work on a professional basis and consist of 35 deputies. Also noteworthy is the draft new constitution of Bashkortostan approved on 4 October. Under it, the Bashkortostan Republic is an independent component of the renewed Russian Federation—a member of the Russian Federation on a voluntary and equal basis. Article 5 of the draft new constitution of Bashkortostan provides for "the preservation of the right to secede freely from the Russian Federation." The approved new draft constitution stresses that relations between the Bashkortostan Republic and the Russian Federation are built in accordance with the Treaty on the Foundations of Interstate Relations, and on the basis of bilateral treaties and agreements. Article 62 maintains Bashkortostan's status as a sovereign state. It is worth noting that the new constitution and the law on Bashkortostan's State Assembly will finally be approved in December at an emergency session prior to federal-wide elections.

The high point of the Bashkortostan parliament's 21st session was an address to Boris Yeltsin on relations between the Bashkortostan Republic and the Russian Federation. This document assesses the draft new fundamental Law of the Russian Federation prepared by participants in the Constitutional Conference as "an attempt to reject the Declaration on State Sovereignty of the Bashkortostan Republic and to force the republic's multi-ethnic people to abandon the level of state development that has been achieved in the past three years." Thus, according to the Bashkortostan Republic Supreme Soviet, the draft new Russian constitution "ignores the results of 21 April 1993 in the Bashkortostan Republic when an overwhelming majority of citizens declared themselves in favor of Bashkortostan's economic independence and treaty-based relations with the Russian Federation." The Bashkortostan Republic's Supreme Soviet believes that the draft new constitution of the Russian Federation "makes an attempt to put the clock back, to turn the sovereign republic into a kind of a regional autonomy, to stop the process of the renewal of Russia and federal relations, and to bring Bashkortostan back into the system of unitary relations."

The statement by the Bashkortostan parliament recalls that Bashkiria in its time voluntarily entered Russia on a treaty basis. In 1919 it received the status of an autonomous republic under agreements between the Bashkir government and the Russian central authorities. Today, like in the past, Bashkortostan deputies believe, a third attempt is afoot to renounce the earlier treaties and the democratic relations between the Center and the regions enshrined in the Federation Treaty. The Bashkortostan

Republic's Supreme Soviet considers that the draft new Russian constitution "calls into question the democratic essence of the new Russian authority which, contrary to statements from the Russian president, nullifies all the earlier efforts to renew the Federation." The Bashkortostan parliament strongly objects to "the aspiration to preserve the Russian Federation as a unitary state, but at the same time is convinced that the talks between Moscow and Ufa aimed at signing additional bilateral agreements will be concluded successfully."

The deputies of the Bashkortostan parliament ended their 21st emergency session by approving the initiative from labor collectives who nominated Bashkortostan Supreme Soviet Chairman Murtaza Rakhimov as an official presidential candidate in the republic. Yet the majority of local experts have no doubts that Rakhimov has practically no rivals today and that on 12 December he will be congratulated on his victory in the presidential race.

Bryansk Oblast Bloc Names Candidates

PM0811130593 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 4 Nov 93 p 1

[Anatoliy Grachev report: "Bryansk Oblast Names Candidates"]

[Text] A session of leaders of the "Patriotic Bryansk Region" [Patrioticheskaya Bryanshchina] Movement and the regional branch of the "Fatherland" organization and the Socialist Party of Working People discussed the political situation in Russia and outlined their actions in the coming elections. The "People's Unity" election bloc was set up.

Candidates were nominated for the Federal Assembly's Federation Council and the State Duma. They are Yuriy Yevgenyevich Lodkin, former oblast administration head; Petr Petrovich Shirshov, former city soviet chairman; and Oleg Aleksandrovich Shenkarev, a teacher at the Bryansk Institute of Transport Mechanical Engineering. In the opinion of the session's participants, these are people whose program expresses the interests of the majority of the oblast's population.

Tatarstan President To Boycott Referendum on Constitution

LD0611192193 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1347 GMT 6 Nov 93

[Text] President Mintimer Shaymiyev of the Russian Federation Republic of Tatarstan said he would take no part in the referendum on the draft of a new Russian Constitution on December 12.

"Attempts to do away with sovereignty are a futile exercise," he told reporters on Friday.

He said that, while the desire of the krays (territories) and oblasts (regions) to have more rights was quite understandable and justifiable, equality of all constituent parts of the Russian Federation should not be achieved by limiting the rights of the republics.

Shaymiyev said that, not having put its signature to the Federation Treaty, Tatarstan considered it "improper" to take part in discussions of the document by Russia's regional leaders. But he said Tatarstan intended to continue its negotiations with Russia, bringing them to their logical conclusion, ie signing a set of intergovernmental agreements and a bilateral treaty.

Commenting on a conference of leaders of Russia's regions and republics, chaired by Russian President Boris Yeltsin, Shaymiyev said the draft constitution prepared for the referendum failed to solve the problem of "the so-called equality of constituent parts of the Federation." He said the conference, at his insistence, had formed a group of regional leaders and Constitutional Commission members which was to work out relevant amendments to the draft within the next day or two. But he said he doubted that any serious amendments would be made, because, following the well-known events of September and October, less and less attention was being paid to the opinions of republics headed by the chairmen of the councils which were to be abolished. Hence, "what we'll most likely have for the referendum will be a draft constitution for a unitary rather than federal Russia," he said.

If the present draft constitution were passed in its present form, Tatarstan would not adjust its own constitution to it, Shaymiyev said. "We must base our relations on our constitutions. The Russian president is not in a position to violate the Russian constitution, nor is the Tatar president in a position to violate the constitution of Tatarstan. This is what our negotiations should be based on," he added.

Tatarstan Speaker Stresses Importance of State Sovereignty

LD0611203593 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1705 GMT 6 Nov 93

[Text] Addressing the people of Tatarstan on the occasion of the 1st anniversary of the republic's Constitution, Parliament Speaker Farid Mukhametshin said: The belief that state sovereignty as an expression of people's right to self-rule cannot be limited remains its "ideological foundation."

When drafting the Constitution Tatarstan's parliament "did not take the road of political extremes, even though there were attempts to nudge it toward doing so," he said. Tatarstan's new Constitution became "a firm obstacle to any expression of nationalism or chauvinism," Mukhametshin declared.

With reference to relations with Russia, the speaker said that Tatarstan stands for a union with the Russian Federation "through signing a bilateral treaty on reciprocally delegating powers," and intends to continue to

strictly uphold "the principle of equality in intergovernmental relations." In the meantime, according to him, equality does not mean that republics, regions and territories are equitable.

Like President Mintimer Shaymiyev, the parliament speaker believes that to submit the draft of Russia's Constitution to a referendum "without coordinating its wording with all members of the Federation" will complicate the process of plebiscite, and the people of Tatarstan "will hardly support such version" of Russia's fundamental laws.

Komi Speaker Adamant on Republics' Sovereignty Issue

MK0611135093 Moscow KOMMERSANT-DAILY in Russian 6 Nov p 3

[Petr Stolyarov report: "Regions on New Constitution. Komi Republic Intends To Complain About Moscow at United Nations"]

[Text] The exclusion from the new constitution draft of the mention of republics' sovereignty has provoked discontent in a number of regional leaders. Yuriy Spiridonov, Supreme Soviet chairman of the Komi Republic, stated Thursday evening that should Moscow's stance not change, the republic would have to turn to the world body to protect its rights.

According to Yuriy Spiridonov, the unplanned participation in the Moscow conference on 3 November of the heads of kray and oblast administrations was a lever to pressure the republics to renounce sovereignty. The Komi parliamentary speaker also stated that the final removal of the Federation Treaty from the draft of a new constitution is capable of making Russia even looser. Mr. Spiridonov stressed that should the treaty be taken out of the draft, he would personally agitate against the new constitution. The harshness of these words attests to the fact that sovereignty for republican leaders is a boundary they will not be able to overstep without risking their present position. This would, however, hardly restrain the president's pressure.

Deputies Dissolve Penza Regional Council

LD0511212293 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1808 GMT 5 Nov 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Revokat Kozmin]

[Text] Penza November 5 TASS—Deputies of the Penza Regional Council have dissolved the council by a majority vote on Friday.

An electoral commission for elections to a new body of representative power of the region was set up and a statute on elections was endorsed.

The regional council has handed over its powers to the regional administration and the electoral commission.

Dagestani Parliament Introduces Presidency

MK0611144093 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian No. 75, 6 Nov 93 (Signed to press 5 Nov) p 2

[Natalya Gorodetskaya report under the "Caucasus" rubric: "Chechen Authorities Opposed to Taking Part in Russian Elections. Dagestani Supreme Soviet Introduces Presidency"]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] On the eve of "national elections," the Dagestani parliament decided to perform what may prove to be its swan song as it rescinded its own October decision to hold a referendum on 12 December on the introduction of a presidency and to conduct presidential elections six months after that date, and introduced the institution of a presidency on its own. Democratic public organizations saw this decision as the republican authorities' attempt "to maintain the old nomenklatura in power and to counter Russia's influence on the evolution of genuine democratization." Their joint statement says, in particular, that whoever is elected president will have to rely on local clans. The rigid vertical structure of authority will render any control by the public impossible and will only amount to an unrestrained dictatorship. The "Democratic Dagestan" movement believes that the institution of a presidency in itself cannot exist in a multi-ethnic republic, because this would run counter to the Dagestanis' historical traditions and interests.

Krasnoyarsk Kray Soviet Votes Against Yenisey Republic

PM0811112093 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 Nov 93 First Edition p 2

[Aleksey Tarasov report: "No Yenisey Republic Yet"]

[Text] Krasnoyarsk—An extraordinary session of the Krasnoyarsk Kray Soviet has decided to set up a new representative organ of power in the kray—a legislative assembly, which will be the successor to the kray soviet.

Elections to the legislative assembly will be held 6 March next year. Before this the representative organ of power in the kray will be the Inner Soviet as currently constituted. It has been decided to convene no more sessions. The Inner Soviet will exercise the powers vested in the kray soviet.

Deputy Nikolay Klepachev called on his colleagues to include on the agenda the question of the creation of a Yenisey republic on Krasnoyarsk region territory. This step, in his opinion, is "overdue." But the session decided by a majority vote not to alter the map of Russia.

Moscow Prosecutor on Rumored Resignation

MK0511174093 Moscow OBSHCHAYA GAZETA in Russian No 16/18, 5-11 Nov 93 (signed to press 4 Nov) p 2

[Interview with Moscow Chief Prosecutor Gennadiy Ponomarev by Seyfali Akhundov; place and date not

given; under the "A Call to the Prosecutor" rubric: "The Law Enforcer Is Always in the Way"—first paragraph is introduction]

[Text] There are persistent rumors about the impending dismissal of Moscow Prosecutor Gennadiy Ponomarev. A call for his replacement has come from the Joint Committee of Russian Democratic Organizations (OKDOR).

[Ponomarev] The rumors about my dismissal are not accidental. First of all, it is necessary to condition those who are somehow or other related to this and to convince them that such an outcome is possible. Second, by exerting pressure, an attempt could be made to influence my principles and my decisions. Probably there is a desire in certain circles to spread confusion within the prosecutor's office. And it is not only myself that matters here. What is involved are moves aimed at replacing people who are not amenable to the present situation. No one has spoken with me on this subject officially as yet. Only the general prosecutor of Russia may appoint or remove me from office. Although, no doubt, many people influence the preparation of cadre decisions. I have not personally met with Kazannik. There was only a single telephone conversation on a private matter.

[Akhundov] Today, wittingly or unwittingly, behind any reshuffles one is looking for a hidden motive related to the 3-4 October events....

[Ponomarev] I am being blamed for the fact that some organizers of the mass disturbances, leaders of the Moscow City Soviet and some district councils, and former people's deputies who played a certain role in the October events are still at large. They are at large because up to now no evidence has been produced to prove their guilt.

The paradox is that a prosecutor who firmly advocated the unquestionable primacy of the law before transient political goals posed a problem for the Moscow City Soviet, the mayor, and the leadership of the General Prosecutor's Office. In summer 1991, when an anti-constitutional process of revising the executive power bodies began in Moscow, I called on Stepankov to intervene. The General Prosecutor's Office did nothing. As a result, confrontation began between the soviets and the administration.

[Akhundov] Did the city authorities, in your opinion, disregard the letter of the law in the tragic October days?

[Ponomarev] It would seem that all methods are good as long as they can stop bloodshed. But in the dramatic situation that took shape at the time, the executive branch attempted to neutralize the deputies who had gathered in Moscow City Hall. In the existing power vacuum they tried to take over the initiative in decision-making. Yet they were taken to the police, where the deputies were kept from 3 to 6 October. The City Prosecutor's Office started an investigation into the legality of the police actions. There is an opinion that these deputies were provocateurs, organizers of the unrest, and criminals. From the law's point of view, they were detained without sufficient grounds. No criminal cases have been opened against the majority of them. With respect to the cases that have been initiated, there is no evidence of these people's involvement in any criminal actions. I am a prosecutor entrusted with standing guard over the law and the rights of the individual, and I make the decision to free these people. The authorities for their part believe that I am not right.

[Akhundov] Is any legal action being taken regarding the killings that occurred in front of the White House and in Ostankino?

[Ponomarev] It seems to me that an act of civil war has taken place. And it is impossible to state in advance that somebody shooting from the armed cordon toward the White House and killing someone there, or that a person shooting from the White House at the cordon, is a killer. At present it is difficult to determine who shot to kill and who shot to protect himself; who acted under extreme circumstances warranting the use of weapons, who acted within the limits of "justified defense," or who overstepped justifiable defense. The law enforcement bodies are yet to clear up under what circumstances people were killed and whether that was a result of somebody's premeditated actions. These matters are being investigated by officers of the General Prosecutor's Office and the Moscow Security Directorate.

St. Petersburg Authorities Seen Harassing Newspaper

MK0511173093 Moscow OBSHCHAYA GAZETA in Russian No. 17/18, 5-11 Nov 93 (signed to press 4 Nov) p 2

[Mikhail Rutman report in the "Press" column: "Journalists Opt for Freedom"]

[Text] The Inner Council of the St. Petersburg City Soviet has decided to abandon its status as co-founder of VECHERNIY PETERBURG newspaper.

Through a joint order by Mayor Anatoliy Sobchak and City Soviet Chairman Aleksandr Belyayev, an inspection of the financial and economic performance by the editorial office was instituted and the collective was invited to decide on the dismissal of Chief Editor Valentin Mayorov. No explanation for the cause of such decisive actions were made. Many see this as political persecution because the paper has regularly criticized the deputies' activity and its publications have often disagreed with the mayor's positions.

The peremptory shout from the city fathers, running counter to the media law and the paper's statute, has evoked rejection even on the part of the editor's opponents. VECHERKA's labor collective voted for its self-institution. It is to undergo official re-registration and then there will be yet another free paper in Russia.

International Affairs

President Kravchuk Discusses Political Trends

LD0511215093

[Editorial Report] Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian at 1520 GMT on 5 November carries the 20-minute "Echo of Russia's Choice" program presented by Yevgeniya Dyurich.

Dyurich begins by saying that Ukraine does not have an equivalent to the Russia's Choice bloc that exists in Russia. The Ukrainian Supreme Council has agreed to elections; at the same time it has obliged President Kravchuk to assume the post of head of the cabinet of ministers, thus putting him in charge of the country's economic policy.

Kravchuk is then shown being interviewed by Dyurich, at an unidentified time and place. The following exchange takes place:

(Dyurich) "There is an opinion that the current changes in the Ukraine are to a certain extent connected with the recent events in Moscow, which took place in October. Is this so?

(Kravchuk) "I think this is not quite so, though I am convinced that the Moscow events have affected not only Ukraine but the whole world. I think that both the immediate reaction of the leading Western states and our Ukrainian reaction show that there was a great concern. This is only natural - after all, Russia is the second largest state in the world in terms of size and power and the processes which take place there and which could change direction might affect the entire political system of the world.

"When I was watching these developments - of course, my observations were not very extensive because the information flow from Ostankino was cut off - but nevertheless I understood that those, frankly speaking, were not just routine altercations between political leaders, but a clash between two philosophies, two standpoints, two political lines, and the situation in Russia and around Russia would depend on who won—I am sure of this. I can tell you in all frankness: I knew—perhaps not for sure, I could have been mistaken - but if the forces represented by the White House had won the victory in Russia, then two-three days later the same would have happened in Ukraine - as the weather in Kiev always changes two or three days after Moscow, so this would have happened. I knew this for certain."

Dyurich continues by saying that Kravchuk, "a great master of compromise," has managed to avoid bloodshed and this is perhaps a trump card for him. She says that most experts think that the level of social tension in Russia is higher than in Ukraine.

Next there follows a series of street interviews with Ukrainians who offer differing views about the October events in Moscow.

A further segment of interview with Kravchuk is shown, as follows:

(Kravchuk) "I have always said that if we progress faster than the people can cope with or are capable of—in economic, psychological and political terms—then we shall lose.

(Dyurich) "You are a far-sighted politician. Can you predict which way the Ukraine will go after the elections?

(Kravchuk) "It is difficult to give a full picture, but I am sure that leftwing forces could gain the upper hand. But you know, I am not afraid of policies orientated toward the left wing, or of leftwing forces if they are intelligent. There are leftwing radicals and rightwing radicals and both life and history show that the leftists soon become rightists and vice versa. But there is one rule: none of them are capable of being centrists. They can move about and come close together, and they present the worst danger.

"As for the center, it should continue to exist. If these terms—right and left—apply today (pauses)—but they do not correspond to reality—then the people will elect wise politicians, personalities who enjoy great respect, and I do not think that they will throw themselves in the arms of different parties.

"And if this happens—as I am confident it will—then the people who come to the parliament, regardless of what ideology or political line they champion more, will make sure that Ukraine develops in a calm manner. Then it will also develop along democratic lines. And I am sure that the same will happen in Russia. We must look upon relations between our states and peoples at a wider angle than it is stipulated by international norms and principles.

"The situation is grave, and it is not difficult to make a political mistake today, I can tell you this, it is easy. It was not by chance that I said 'not difficult' because there is a difference between this and 'easy'. But having made the mistake, we could leave a scar in the souls and hearts of people, of two Slavonic peoples—and they are more than just Slavonic peoples, it will soon be 350 years, 1654-1994, 350 years since these two peoples have been living as one family. Today they are building two states—Russia and Ukraine, as is their right. This right belongs to the people.

"But if we approach the matter only with these yardsticks, though they too were created by humankind, and do not consider what trace we could leave, good or evil, bright future or bitter grievance—this is also quite possible—such mistakes are simply inadmissible."

Dyurich goes on to interview Aleksandr Yemets, Ukrainian minister for nationalities and migration, who stresses the importance of safeguarding the interests of Ukraine's minorities, Igor Markulov, presidential adviser on economic affairs, who emphasizes that the most important thing for business people is stability, and

briefly defines the current business situation in Ukraine, and Aleksandr Lavrinovich, chairman of the Ukrainian Central Electoral Commission, who gives details of the new electoral system.

Further street interviews follow on the prospects for the coming elections in Ukraine.

Next, Nikolay Zhulinskiy, Ukrainian deputy prime minister for humanitarian policy, is interviewed. He discusses the importance of cultural links.

The following final segment of Kravchuk's interview is then carried:

(Dyurich) "How can the golden mean in political life be found?

(Kravchuk) "One must always ask the people about that. You know, we are used (pauses)—I am talking about myself, I was brought up under the previous system, when no one consulted the people; they said all the time that the people supported this or that, but no one ever asked it; a decision would be adopted without any consultation; and so now we are unused to consulting the people, strange as it may seem. Often political or other decisions are taken by a group of certain political forces and leaders, and this is the main fault and the main root of our failures. We continue thinking that things can be done without taking people into account, that the people will follow us if we want it to do so. So, if we start asking people properly and teach ourselves real democracy—there is no democracy without the people—if we learn to live like this and to consult, then we shall find that golden mean."

Plyushch, Kravchuk on Russian Military Doctrine

LD0511163493 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 1400 GMT 5 Nov 93

[Text] Kiev, 5 Nov—In an interview with a UNIAN correspondent on 5 November Ivan Plyushch, chairman of the Supreme Council of Ukraine, answered a question on his attitude toward the Russian military doctrine. He said: "It is known that proceeding from this doctrine Russia is going to protect the Russian-speaking population. When they ask for protection this can somehow be understood, but when protection is offered, this is less humane and more subjective. Who is the Russian-speaking population to be protected against and who is asking for such protection? There are 11 million Russians here in Ukraine and I do not know even a single instance of one of them appealing for protection over the past three or four years."

Ukraine's President Leonid Kravchuk, commenting on the right to be the first to use nuclear weapons stipulated in the Russian doctrine, pointed out: "I do not think that the Russians have infringed the norms of civilization and humanism to such an extent as to reserve the right to be the first to use nuclear weapons. I do not want to have a feud with Russia. If we embark on the road of hostilities we shall not survive. We shall stand proudly but we shall never initiate hostilities." As far as the protection of the Russian-speaking population is concerned, he said: "There is no such law in the world to enable one country to protect the citizens of some other country. It is Ukraine which must protect the residents of Ukraine of all nationalities, and it does protect them. Nationality must be subordinated to citizenship and we are building a state in which all people are equal."

As far as the signing of the START I treaty by the Supreme Council of Ukraine is concerned, Ivan Plyushch pointed out that this must be done. "As far as the Lisbon Protocol and Ukraine's status in general are concerned, any pressure in regard to these issues is unethical," the Ukrainian parliament chairman remarked.

Further Kravchuk, Plyushch Comments

LD0511190993 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1739 GMT 5 Nov 93

[Text] "There has never been a precedent set in the world whereby a state would defend people of any nationality if they are citizens of another state," Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk said while commenting the statement, at the request of journalists, of the Russian Defense Minister Pavel Grachev on the need to defend the Russian-speaking population in other countries. The Ukrainian president pointed out, referring to Grachev's words, that the recently adopted Russian military doctrine contains this statement.

Kravchuk also said that, as he believes, "nationality has a subordinate meaning with respect to citizenship." If one adheres to this principle, he added, "there is no need to defend anybody." "Ukraine will defend Russians living in Ukraine," he emphasized.

At the same time the Ukrainian president recognized that he had not seen the official text of the Russian military doctrine. "I don't think that Russians have overstepped all norms of civilized behavior and humanism by writing in their doctrine that they have the right to use nuclear weapons first," he declared.

Chairman of Ukraine's Supreme Soviet Ivan Plyushch who was present at this conversation indicated that "one can understand when somebody asks for security but not when somebody proposes it." In his words, "there is no need to defend the Russian-speaking population in Ukraine." "I do not know of any case where a Russian addressed us with a request to defend him," he underlined.

Plyushch also reaffirmed his point of view on agreements on Ukraine's nuclear disarmament, having reported that "the issue on ratification of the START-I Treaty has been practically solved." At the same time he expressed doubt that the parliament would ratify the Lisbon Protocol and decide to join the NPT Treaty.

On Friday Kravchuk and Plyushch participated in the ceremony devoted to the opening of a museum to commemorate Kiev's liberation from Nazi Germany.

Zlenko Holds Talks With Russia's Kozyrev in Odessa

Talks Encounter 'Difficulty'

LD0511214493 Moscow INTERFAX in English 2029 gmt 5 nov 93

[Text] The negotiations between Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev and his Ukrainian counterpart, Anatoliy Zlenko, in Odessa are encountering difficulty, the Ukrainian Foreign Ministry told INTERFAX-Ukraine today. The two ministers are discussing the package of agreements, reached at the Massandra summit on September 3, on the Black Sea Fleet's future and shipping of the Ukrainian nuclear warheads to Russia.

Before he left for Odessa, Kozyrev said the withdrawal of nuclear weapons from the Ukrainian territory was to begin on January 1 1994. Otherwise, an accident more disastrous than Chernobyl may occur, the minister said, referring to the expiration date for the nuclear weapons' stay in Ukraine. Kozyrev also said Russia did not refuse to cover half of the Black Sea Fleet's value.

Meanwhile, Ukrainian Deputy Foreign Minister Boris Tarasyuk told INTERFAX-Ukraine today that the Russian minister's statement on the danger of keeping nuclear explosives at Ukrainian warehouses was not true to life.

He described Kozyrev's statement as "pressure upon Ukraine" and an attempt to influence world opinion. Tarasyuk believes that the Russian foreign minister tried to prove that Ukrainian storage facilities are unsafe before the world public in order to force Kiev to withdraw the warheads.

Tarasyuk maintained that he was aware of the safety of keeping nuclear warheads on the Ukrainian territory.

Zlenko on Talks, Military Cooperation

LD0511221293 Kiev UNIAN in Ukrainian 2030 GMT 5 Nov 93

[Interview with Foreign Minister Anatoliy Zlenko by unidentified UNIAN correspondent in Odessa on 5 November—first paragraph in introduction]

[Text] Odessa [dateline as received]—Government delegations of Ukraine and Russia led by Foreign Ministers Anatoliy Zlenko and Andrey Kozyrev took over an hour to narrow down the range of issues and mutual claims to be discussed today and tomorrow. It was agreed at about 1600 that the ministers will meet in private at 1800 after a recess, to be joined later by the delegation members. During the recess, Anatoliy Zlenko spoke to a UNIAN correspondent.

[UNIAN] Andrey Kozyrev said that he conveyed a message from Boris Yeltsin to Leonid Kravchuk in which Moscow insists on discussing the issues of nuclear arms in Ukraine, compliance with the latest agreements regarding the fleet, dual citizenship, etc. Could you outline your view on these problems?

[Zlenko] I would describe our meeting with the Russian delegation as the final stage in preparation for the settlement of the entire complex of interstate problems by the presidents of Russia and Ukraine. We shall discuss packages of political, treaty-related, and legal, politico-military, as well as humanitarian issues. Special focus will be made on the work on approaches to the solution of economic problems. I think we will shall finish by tomorrow lunchtime.

[UNIAN] Could you specify your attitude to Ukrainian marines of the Black Sea Fleet detachments landing on the Georgian coast? Is this the beginning of a new "Afghanistan" for Ukraine?

[Zlenko] In my opinion, there is nothing odd in the two presidents' decision to send troops to the Georgian coast. The presidents are, so to speak, the fleet's commanders, which goes along with the nature of the Dagomys and Yalta agreements.

[UNIAN] A few words on the commotion in the Russian press about the technical faults found with one of the nuclear missiles based in Ukraine.

[Zlenko] I have no such information. It is unfortunate that they choose a method like this to dramatize the situation around nuclear weapons in Ukraine. I think we have enough experienced military experts capable of maintaining and controlling nuclear arms. Even if a situation like this should arise, we could always use Russian experts under the agreements on supervision.

Talks End in 'Cautious' Success

LD0611132893 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1200 GMT 6 Nov 93

[Text] The Russo-Ukrainian foreign ministers meeting in Odessa on the problems of implementing the Massandra agreements ended today, ITAR-TASS reported.

Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev said at a briefing that the talks took place in the most positive atmosphere. In Kozyrev's view, they managed to arrive at a cautious, as he put it, success, insofar as they had not gotten bogged down over formulas but had sought ways of overcoming the problems together.

Anatoliy Zlenko also subscribes to this opinion. The Ukrainian minister believes that after the meeting in Odessa, the results of which will be reported to the presidents, there is every reason to evaluate the meeting as a good one.

Ministers Urge Permanent Contacts

LD0611150193 Kiev UKRINFORM in Ukrainian 1323 GMT 6 Nov 93

[By Volodymyr Novak, UKRINFORM correspondent]

[Text] A working meeting of Ukrainian Foreign Minister Anatoliy Zlenko and Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev has been proceeding in Odessa on 5-6 November. Ways of further developing mutual relations and cooperation between two independent states with equal rights were discussed. In particular, problems regarding eliminating nuclear weapons, recycling atomic engineering waste, and implementing accords relating to the Black Sea Fleet were raised. The outcome of the meeting will be made known to the presidents of Ukraine and Russia.

A press conference by Anatoliy Zlenko and Andrey Kozyrev for journalists took place. The ministers expressed the opinion that such contacts between the heads of the foreign policy departments and government establishments should take place on a permanent business-like basis.

Volodymyr Kryzhanivskyy, Ukraine's ambassador to Russia, and Leonid Smolyakov, Russia's ambassador to Ukraine, took part in the meeting.

News Conference on 'Constructive' Talks

LD0611171893 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 1600 GMT 6 Nov 93

[Text] The foreign ministers of Ukraine and Russia, Anatoliy Zlenko and Andrey Kozyrev, held a joint news conference in Odessa today, 6 November. It was dedicated to their two-day working meeting. The heads of foreign affairs said their meeting had been successful. They emphasized, in particular, that there had been constructive talks on finding ways to carry out the agreements reached at the latest meetings between Leonid Kravchuk and Boris Yeltsin. Thus is what both presidents had instructed them to do.

The main task was to reach an agreement, while specialist experts would determine the mechanism for carrying it out. The ministers also declared that they had draft solutions to specific issues of curing the situation in Ukraine and Russia. There are a number of proposals for strengthening cooperation between the two great Slavic countries and carrying it further toward the European region.

START I Deputies Group Lists Documents To Consider

LD0611175693 Kiev UNIAR in Ukrainian 1245 GMT 6 Nov 93

[Text] Kiev, 5 Nov—A sitting of the deputies' group for issues of ratification of the START I treaty, the Lisbon Protocol, and the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty has taken place at the premises of the standing commissions of the Supreme Council under the chairmanship of [Environment Minister] Yuriy Kostenko. Deputies Ivan Zayets, Dmytro Pavlychko, Volodymyr Tolubko, Stepan Khmara, Tetyana Yakheyeva, and others took part in the session.

According to information from Yuriy Yelchenko, chairman of a subcommission of the Supreme Council commission for issues of state sovereignty, the sitting was of a working and organizational nature. Deputies noted that before submitting the issue of ratification to plenary sittings the following documents should be studied: materials from the Ukrainian-U.S. meeting between Leonid Kravchuk and Warren Christopher, in particular the framework agreement and the program of government activity for December 1993 and for 1994 and the state budget for 1994, which should be distributed to deputies no earlier than 10 November.

The deputies decided to hold the next sitting of the commission on 12 November with the participation of government representatives.

Commentary Ridicules TASS Missile Report

AU0511140893 Kiev HOLOS UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 4 Nov 93 p 1

[Ihor Hrushko commentary: "Beware—ITAR-TASS"]

[Text] All the heads of the world's major secret services should resign en masse as of yesterday. They have been completely disgraced. They know absolutely nothing. It appears, dear readers, that there are more than 176 strategic missiles in Ukraine. How many would you think? You'll never guess. As many as 1,600. If somebody has any doubts, let him read yesterday's report by the greatest Soviet and presently Russian agency ITAR-TASS. The following is clearly written there with a reference to the REUTER Agency (we quote): "V. Byelashov, head of the Ukrainian delegation for nuclear disarmament, stressed that the government of Ukraine will not raise the question in the parliament of compensation for 1,600 strategic missiles until the problem of compensation for the tactical nuclear weapons is resolved."

We telephoned REUTER's Kiev bureau.

"Strange translations from English are made in Moscow," said the bureau's employee Rostyslav Khotyn. "Yes, our information on the briefing at Ukraine's Ministry of Foreign Affairs mentioned the figure '1,600.' However, it applied to missile warheads. It is difficult to tell how they became transformed into missiles in the TASS report."

NATO Groups Inspect Elimination of Conventional Arms

LD0611181893 Kiev UKRINFORM in Russian 1324 GMT 6 Nov 93

[Text] Kiev, 5 Nov (UKRINFORM)—The military circles of the West are displaying an increased interest not

only in nuclear arms, but also in conventional arms of the Ukrainian Army. A regular inspection of Ukraine's "elimination objects" [likvidatsionnykh obyektov] by specialists from France and Spain ended today [5 November]. It was conducted in accordance with the Conventional Armed Forces in Europe Treaty.

The French group, reports the press service of the Ukrainian Defense Ministry, visited an aviation technology base in the town of Chuguyev where 65 MiG-21 planes were destroyed by way of dismemberment into components, and they also visited an armored vehicle plant in Kiev, where work on eliminating 40 T-62 tanks was under way.

The Spanish were at an armored tank plant in Zhitomir, where workers eliminated 65 armored combat vehicles, and they also visited a plane repair base in the town of Ovruch, where 25 SU-17 and SU-25 planes are subject to reduction.

National Affairs

Kravchuk Specifies Measures To Establish Law, Order in Kiev

AU0711171693 Kiev URYADOVYY KURYER in Ukrainian 4 Nov 93 p 5

["Ukrainian Presidential Directive on Measures for Ensuring Law and Order and Normalizing the Sanitary Situation in Kiev" issued in Kiev on 28 October]

[Text] In order to eliminate conditions that have caused the emergence of the extremely complex crime-breeding and sanitary- epidemiologic situation in Kiev and also in view of the city's significance as Ukraine's capital and in support of the proposals by the Ukrainian presidential representative in Kiev, the following measures are to be implemented:

1. The Kiev city state administration, in coordination with corresponding central organs of executive power, must do the following:

—take measures for regulating the migration of the population by way of granting quotas for citizens' registration at places of residence [propyska] and establishing a procedure for registering persons who arrive in Kiev;

—establish and implement control over the adherence to single sanitary conditions at Kiev's enterprises, institutions, and organizations, irrespective of their jurisdiction or forms of ownership;

—specify categories of persons who must be subject to medical examination upon their arrival in Kiev and rules for carrying out such examination;

—demand that corresponding organs and organizations coordinate plans and conditions for holding nationwide, international, mass public, and visual undertakings on the territory of Kiev with the Kiev city state administration;

—establish the procedure for organizing and holding in Kiev rallies, street marches, and demonstrations.

2. Ukraine's Cabinet of Ministers must allocate the necessary means for implementing measures stipulated in Item 1 of the given directive.

[Signed] Ukrainian President L. Kravchuk

[Dated] Kiev, 28 Oct 1993

Cabinet Holds Conference on Stabilizing Prices

LD0511204193 Kiev Radio Ukraine World Service in Ukrainian 1300 GMT 5 Nov 93

[Text] A conference attended by leaders of a number of ministries and departments and also directors of mines and coal associations took place on 4 November at the Cabinet of Ministers building under the chairmanship of Acting Prime Minister of Ukraine Yukhym Zvyahilskyy. The discussion focused on issues of prices and price formation, speeding up payments for the products supplied by miners. Mykola Surhay, chairman of the State Committee of Ukraine for Coal Industry told a UKRINFORM correspondent after the conference ended.

In my speech I mentioned that the situation in the [coal mining] industry is complicated, he underscored. I would like to remind you that measures geared toward stabilizing the situation in the industry were discussed on 12 October with the participation of the Ukrainian president and the acting prime minister. Today we examined the fulfillment of those measures. Issues pertaining to the deliveries of timber, fuels, and lubricants were also discussed. As far as the price issue is concerned, Mykola Surhay pointed out, the wholesale price for coal remains unchanged so far. A subsidy amounting to 541 billion karbovantsi has also been preserved. I would like to underscore again that the situation in the industry is difficult and this is why both Leonid Kravchuk and Yukhym Zvyahilskyy, despite the fact that the financial situation in the country is extremely difficult, promised to find about one trillion karbovantsi so that the coal miners could settle the debts. This will to a certain extent improve the financial situation of coal miners.

A number of other measures to stabilize the situation in the industry were adopted at the conference.

Landyk Clarifies Credits, Hard Currency Rumors

WS0511153493 Kiev Ukravinske Radio First Program Network in Ukrainian 1500 GMT 4 Nov 93

[Interview with Valentyn Landyk, deputy prime minister for issues of external economic relations and investments, by Vitaliy Naumenko on 4 November; place not given—recorded]

[Text] [Naumenko] Valentyn Ivanovych, at recent news conferences held by various media, there have been reports that Western countries have refused further credits to Ukraine. Does this information reflect reality?

[Landyk] I must admit that I do not understand who has been saying this and why. Maybe this has been done on purpose; I do not know. I can state that we have currently received credit offers; for example, we have signed a credit offer with Turkey for $50 million. We even have to choose what credits we should take, and what is more convenient for us. So, I cannot understand this pressure. I can say that the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Economy, and the Ukreximpbank, have analyzed, at the Cabinet of Ministers' request, the implementation of foreign credits and possibilities for new ones to enterprises, organizations, the Ministry of Health, the Ministry of Industry, the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Communication, and other ministries. It has been proven that the credits to these enterprises, ministries, and departments have been given according to the government's and the Hard Currency and Credit Council's resolutions, which were based on estimates by the Ministry of Economy and the Ukreximpbank. In the first 10 months of the year, we should return $73,498,000 in credit interest. Currently, we have $71,690,000 on our account with the Ukreximpbank. So, as you can see, we will repay the credits that we have been given; we have the resources to do that.

[Naumenko] So, there is no reason to panic?

[Landyk] There is absolutely no reason to panic. I am very embarrassed that I have to denounce the information that we have been refused foreign credits. How can they be refused, when, for example, the German credits have already been allocated, and $71 million credit from Italy has been given to the Zaporizhzhya Aluminum Plant for production of aluminum foil. This has already been signed, so I do not understand that.

[Naumenko] The second issue that has to be explained is the information, or disinformation, that a resolution on the liquidation of the Ukrainian hard currency stock exchange has been adopted.

[Landyk] We have not said that we will liquidate it but that we will suspend its activities. This was clearly stated in the president's decree. However, I would like to point out that the National Bank of Ukraine or someone else will receive the rights to conduct such operations. All I want to say is that we have freed the fixed hard currency exchange rate. The situation remains under control. This is a somewhat unpopular decision, but it depends on who is making that judgment. For the people it is popular.

Black Sea Fleet Facing Cuts; Kiev's Fleet To Expand

AU0711171793 Kiev MOLOD UKRAYINY in Ukrainian 2 Nov 93 p 1

[Report by Volodymyr Prytula from Sevastopol]

[Text] The Black Sea Fleet, which has not been divided [between Ukraine and Russia], is presently awaiting sharp reduction. A few days ago, commander of the fleet Admiral E. Baltin said in an interview for representatives of the mass media that any fleet may have large quantities of ships but remain ineffective. In the admiral's opinion, "It is necessary, proceeding from the theory of building armed forces and in accordance with all rules of operational art, radically to restructure the organizational and personnel structure in order that the Black Sea Fleet could have assault groups of surface ships, submarines, and various forces." Therefore, in accordance with Admiral Baltin's estimates, the numerical strength of the fleet may be reduced by 15-20 percent "without impairing its combat readiness and without affecting its officer personnel."

"Such a change in the organizational and personnel structure," believes the commander of the Black Sea Fleet, "will raise the fleet's combat readiness and will make it possible to utilize its forces efficiently both in conditions of local military conflicts of various intensity and when it is necessary to conduct large-scale warfare." However, as has become known from sources close to the Black Sea Fleet Headquarters, a more radical reduction of the fleet is being expected—by 45 percent. It is true that the Press Service of the Black Sea Fleet has not, so far, confirmed this information. However, regardless of the figures that are quoted pertaining to "changes in the organizational and personnel structure of the Black Sea Fleet," a reduction, and a drastic one at that, will take place.

Meanwhile, the Ukrainian Fleet continues to expand. A small ASW [antisubmarine warfare] ship "Lutsk" has completed its trials and will, as planned, sail to Sevastopol at the end of November. At the beginning of the next year, the missile carrier "Bohdan Khmelnytskyy" will be commissioned. As one can see, there is no danger of cuts in the Ukrainian fleet.

Belarus

'Deterioration' Reported in Political Situation

LD0711201993 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1700 GMT 7 Nov 93

[Text] With the parliament session just about to open, there has been a sudden deterioration in the political situation. Our correspondent Yuriy Svirko has the details:

[Svirko] The much-vaunted Belarusian stability would seem to ending. In an appeal to the citizens of the Republic of Belarus on 5 November, the Council of Ministers accused a number of opposition organizations of being responsible for—I quote—spreading rumors, pamphlets, and calls inciting the population to mass civil unrest and illegal acts. These contain overt threats against the government, call for volunteer military groups to be set up and for armed assaults, and include insulting attacks on the Russian people; end of quote.

The Belarus Government declared that such rumors and appeals are being disseminated through the press, radio, and television, even though the majority of newspapers and all electronic mass media are under the control of the Council of Ministers. They would of course be unable to disseminate such things even if they really wanted to. As for the pamphlets, the Belarus People's Front has indeed printed over 300,000 copies of an appeal to their compatriots to come on 9 November—the day the parliamentary session opens—to Independence Square in front of the government building. The People's Front members called for support for their three demands to the Supreme Soviet: to force the Kebich government to resign; to set up a transitional non-communist government; and to set new elections for spring 1994. The pamphlet contains absolutely no attacks against the Russian people, nor calls for an armed assault, but only an invitation to come to the square.

The Belarus Council of Ministers has warned, however—I quote—that those who organize and take part in provocative acts and any other unlawful actions will meet with the most harsh and decisive resistance; end of quote.

On the evening of 6 November, the Belarus People's Front, the Belarus Association of Servicemen, and other opposition organizations adopted their own appeal to the citizens of Belarus and to the international community. They denied all the Council of Ministers' accusations and declared they will bring a slander action against the government. Although the appeal points out that the government will stop at nothing in order to keep its hold on power, People's Front leader Zenon Poznyak said that the event planned for 9 November on Independence Square will still take place. The whole of Belarus is awaiting Tuesday in some anxiety. Yuriy Svirko from Minsk for Russia's Radio.

Report on Situation Among Air Defense Troops

LD0511211793 Minsk Radiostantsiya Belarus International Service in Belarusian 1900 GMT 3 Nov 93

[Text] A first-degree state of alert for the republic's air defense troops has been announced 55 times this year. They even had fighter aircraft taking off. However, all the cases without exception are on the conscience of the State Committee for the Use of Air Space, said Major-General Valeryy Kastenka, commander of the Air Defense Troops of Belarus, in an interview for the press. All the airlines pay large sums of money for permission for their planes to cross our republic's air space but, as one knows, money is able [words indistinct] people. Therefore, in such a situation where there is lack of coordination between departments and [words indistinct] responsibility for the security of the sovereign republic.

According to Valeryy Kastenka, (?foreign) military planes have not violated our borders. Belarusia's air defense system works in a smooth and coordinated way. Therefore, there is no reason for concern that someone may catch us unawares. There is none and there cannot be any [reason for concern], Valeriy Kastenka said. Moreover, the Belarusian air defense troops look in some ways better than similar systems of our neighbors from the former USSR because the commander also has available, besides the facilities and means of air defense, the strength and means of the army. This is a good addition which makes it possible, if the need arises, to act quickly and effectively.

One of the problems of the air defense troops at this time is that it is impossible to carry out excercises solely on the territory of Belarus. We simply do not have the necessary [word indistinct]. Russia does have them, and therefore a relevant agreement about their use is being prepared now although it will cost a lot. Machinery will also have to be bought in Russia because we cannot produce it in the republic. As for the officer cadres, the air defense troops are fully manned with them. Although officers' wages are higher in Russia not many have transferred for service there.

However, another trend is apparent: the flow of those who wish to serve in the Belarusian army has reduced. According to Valeriy Kastenka, only sincere patriots are applying for a return.

Servicemen Official Hopes To Avoid 'Confrontation'

WS0811120493 Minsk BELAPAN in Russian 1100 GMT 6 Nov 93

[Unattributed report]

[Text] BELAPAN has asked Nikolay Statkevich, chairman of the Belarusian Association of Servicemen [BAS], to comment on a statement released by the

Belarusian Cabinet of Ministers. "The aim of this statement," said the BAS chairman, "is to frighten people, so that they would not come to the meeting with the deputies from the legislative opposition scheduled for 9 November. The Government is afraid of people who can seriously influence the legislature's decisions." According to the BAS information, the Government has planned a forceful breaking up of the meeting. In the opinion of Statkevich, calls for setting up volunteer military groups and armed assaults mentioned in the statement are "fantasies caused by alcoholic intoxication." "The Government's policy is dangerous and can lead to an unpredictable upshot. The BAS is acting within the legal framework and will do everything to avoid confrontation. Should the Government use force, we will not be able to prevent violence," Statkevich added.

Defense Minister Kozlovskiy on Visit to U.S.

LD0511204493 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 2024 GMT 5 Nov 93

[By BELINFORM correspondent Larisa Lazar for TASS]

[Text] Minsk November 5 TASS—Belarusian Defence Minister Pavel Kozlovskiy said that "the U.S. had shown respect and understanding of Belarus' position consistently coming out for being a nuclear-free and neutral state".

On Friday, Kozlovskiy addressed a news conference devoted to the results of the visit by a delegation of the Belarusian Defence Ministry to the United States. As a result of the talks, the sides signed a memorandum on cooperation between Defence Ministries of the two countries on the entire spectrum of military problems.

According to Kozlovskiy, the Belarusian delegation has brought to the United States a number of concrete programmes and projects which were handed in to the U.S. secretary for defence and senators. In particular, the programme "the military to the military" envisages the exchange of experience, meetings of experts, joint training of officers. An agreement was reached that a group of Belarusian servicemen would be sent to the United States to undergo training there.

The sides discussed possibilities for U.S. aid in the elimination of conventional weapons, conversion of defence-related enterprises and training of servicemen.

Meetings held in the United States showed that business circles of the two countries are interested in mutual cooperation. After a conference on problems of conversion over 150 U.S. companies said that wish to participate in a competition for the right to cooperate with Belarusian leading defence enterprises.

Kozlovskiy noted that during a meeting with the U.S. Secretary for Defence Les Aspin they discussed Belarus' participation in the "partnership for peace" programme. Kozlovskiy pointed out that "we are prepared to work in the framework of this programme since it will enable us to cooperate on a bilateral basis with NATO countries and countries not belonging to this bloc."

In the opinion of the Belarusian defence minister, this cooperation might become a bridge for friendly relations both with Russia and NATO countries and lessen confrontation between the East and West and promote European security. As for Belarus, the participation in the partnership for peace programme does not run contrary to its status of neutrality and will become a guarantee of the country's safety, Kozlovskiy said.

He pointed out that cooperation in the framework of this programme does not mean Belarus joining the NATO alliance." This problem was not discussed in Washington," Kozlovskiy said.

Nuclear Plant Projects Discussed With Russia, Canada

WS0811120293 Minsk Radio Minsk Network in Belarusian 0800 GMT 8 Nov 93

[Text] Uladzimir Zablotskiy, first deputy chairman of the Committee for Science and Scientific-Technical Progress, held a meeting with Russian and Canadian nuclear power engineering specialists in Moscow. The meeting was devoted to prospects for construction of a nuclear power plant in Belarus, as well as proj[illegible]or a modern nuclear power plant, which would provide secure operation based on the utilization of natural uranium and heavy water.

Moldova

Russian General Lebed Discusses Dniester Situation

LD0511190393 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1316 GMT 5 Nov 93

[Text] Viktor Katan, Moldova's deputy interior minister, has demanded that the Russian-Moldovan talks on the status of the Russian 14th Army and the time of its withdrawal from Moldova be speeded up in connection with its alleged or real destabilizing role it plays in the region. Our correspondent Yuriy Selivanov visited the Dniester region, where he interviewed General Aleksandr Lebed, commander of the 14th Army stationed there.

[Begin recording] [Selivanov] There has been much talk of late that tension is again mounting in the Dniester region.

[Lebed] I see no grounds for such pessimistic conclusions and forecasts. If 29 July of last year, when the peacemaking forces were introduced, is taken as a point of reference, there has been peace for 15 months. Sharp moves should be avoided. Russian peace-making forces are stationed in the entire security zone extending for up

to 200 km. After all, I am here, and we will not permit any aggravation of the situation fraught with a military conflict.

[Selivanov] What is the current stage of the talks on withdrawal of your army, and how real is the withdrawal itself of your units in these conditions?

[Lebed] In accordance with the plan devised by myself, over this year, 13 formations and units have been disbanded, three have been withdrawn and two are being disbanded. This is a planned operation, and nothing bothers me. No one is chasing me away, just the contrary, I would say. It is agreed here that the army is a guarantor of peace and stability.

[Selivanov] A month after the tragic events in Moscow, reports on the Dnester authorities' involvement in them have not been substantiated by any specific facts. Do you not feel today that, at the time, you were a bit hasty in accusing some Dnester leaders?

[Lebed] Not at all. [end recording)0

Snegur on Foreign Economic Relations Policy

AU0511145993 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 2150 GMT 4 Nov 93

[Text] Chisinau BASAPRESS, 4/11/1993—Today, President Mircea Snegur gave an interview to the correspondent of the Eurasia Studio of OSTANKINO television. Snegur said that to succeed in promoting the reforms, democracy should not be conceived unilaterally, states the presidential press service. Snegur pronounced against censoring and halting the activity of opposition publications. In his opinion, the only true criterion for assessing newspapers is truth. Snegur said that those who criticize the Moldovan leadership for signing the economic agreement with CIS have no chances in the electoral campaign. The introduction of excises and the increase of the value-added tax imposed on Moldovan products exported to Russia resulted with financial losses amounting about 40 billion rubles. This amount equals the losses of 1992 as a result of the drought. Snegur stated that Moldova will not renounce from integration in the West, but, in his opinion, it is early yet to completely change the orientation towards the West since western businessmen are trying to enter the Eastern market. In next year's elections President Snegur will support the political organizations which favor Moldova's independence and integrity and have reasonable programs of social assistance, states the presidential press service.

President Snegur Promises Steps Against Corruption

AU0611205093 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 2048 GMT 5 Nov 93

[Text] Chisinau, BASAPRESS 5/11/1993—President Mircea Snegur gave an interview to the magazine SAPTAMANA (The Week). He stated that "steps will be made to stop those who steal public goods." "I ordered the government and ministries to take care of their household. But it seems that someone is trying my patience. For delay and, I should say, for sabotage of presidential orders, I assure you that, first of all, heads of ministries, mayors, and other state subdivisions will be punished," stressed Snegur. He also said that a leader who does not rely in his activity on the support of intellectuals is a leader with no political future. "I always tried to push our intellectuals out of the society's bottom, doctors and teachers receive no salaries that situate them among categories with good remuneration," stated President Snegur.

Snegur Says Rivals Have No Chance To Win Elections

LD0511212593 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1731 GMT 5 Nov 93

[Report by correspondents Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovskiy, and Vladimir Shishlin; edited by Boris Grishchenko; from the "Presidential Bulletin" feature]

[Text] President Mircea Snegur is convinced that the opponents who criticize him for signing of an economic agreement within the CIS have no chance of winning the parliamentary elections.

In his interview with the TV company Ostankino the president mentioned the following fact as an example of dilettantism: excises and customs tariffs imposed on Moldovan goods exported to Russia, which have been in effect until recently, have inflicted Rbs 40 Bn [billion] worth of damage to the republic. "This is equal to the losses inflicted as a result of last year's drought," Snegur emphasized.

At the same time he noted that nobody in the republic's leadership rejected full-scale integration with the western market. However, this is premature now, believes Snegur, because the majority of businessmen strive to enter the eastern market.

Meanwhile, in an interview with Interfax, the leader of Moldova's Social Democratic Party Oazu Nantoy (Snegur's former adviser) declared that his organization intends to win in the upcoming parliamentary elections. In Nantoy's words, the program of his party "is oriented towards the needs of wide circles of the population and relies on their support."

In particular, Nantoy reported that the social democrats were calling for increasing compensation payments and benefits to poor circles of the population and implementation of a complex of measures of tax legislative nature which would stimulate development of all forms of agriculture. In addition, he continued, members of the social-democratic party intended to render "priority support to all kinds of legal undertakings by liberalizing foreign economic legislation and establishing preferential taxes."

The social democrats also propose to postpone the attestation proving knowledge of the state language by all working citizens of the republic scheduled for January 1, 1994 and to hold it after the parliamentary elections "to avoid a new burst of inter-ethnic confrontation in Moldova."

Sangheli Says $250 Million Needed for Reform

AU0611204893 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 2048 GMT 5 Nov 93

[Text] Chisinau, BASAPRESS 5/11/1993—Moldova's external debt represents about $500 million. In the opinion of Premier Andrei Sangheli, it is bearable, the debts of other countries are much bigger, states the newspaper KOMMERSANT MOLDOVY (Businessman of Moldova). The premier says that $250 million are necessary for the fulfillment of economic reforms. Therefore he proposes to continue accepting foreign credits. The premier is for intensifying economic relations with the East and firstly with Russia. He is sure that Moscow will soon grant Moldova favorable commercial conditions. Though many wonder if the acception of financial help granted by international organizations would make Moldova a "vassal" of the West. Moldova wants to have relations with the East and the West as well, states the newspaper. The newspaper says that the demand of the Federation of Independent Trade Unions to publish the IMF memorandum is just. The Moldovan leadership keeps its calm and the "premier declares that Moldova's possibilities to obtain foreign credits are not completely finished," states the newspaper.

Minister Presents Draft '94 Budget to Government

AU0711210893 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 1826 GMT 6 Nov 93

[Text] Chisinau, BASAPRESS, 6/11/1993—According to the project of budget for 1994 presented to the Moldovan Government by Claudia Melnic, minister of finance, the budget deficit will represent only 3.5 percent of the gross national product, states the today's issue of the newspaper NEZAVISIMAYA MOLDOVA (Independent Moldova). The income will represent 1,150 billion rubles, while the deficit is expected to be 200 billion rubles. According to the newspaper, "it is strange that though it was officially declared about the introduction in November of national currency, calculations were made in rubles." The project stipulates that the share of taxes in national income will decrease from 20.5 percent in 1992 to 16.3 percent in 1994. The government will guarantee fixed prices for bread, milk, communal services and electricity, but it will decrease the compensations. The minimum salary will represent 15,000 rubles. A lot of objections were addressed to the minister of finance. The Director of the State Department for Privatization Visarion Cesuiev proposed three methods for increasing the state budget: auction sales of about 1,600 unfinished buildings, determination of the cost of one square meter of flat, of equipment and buildings that became a burden for the economic units. The government approved the status of the Moldovan Orthodox Church and this settled juridically the independence of the Metropolitan Seat. This led to misunderstandings that are not of spiritual character since this concerns the supporters of a single faith and a single state. But, finally, the status of the Church was approved, states the newspaper.

Dniester Prepares To Celebrate October Revolution

AU0711210793 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 1826 GMT 6 Nov 93

[Text] Chisinau, BASAPRESS, 6/11/1993—The anniversary of the October Revolution will be widely celebrated in Dniester Region. The communist party had the initiative for these celebrations. The Tiraspol University and its president Vasiliy Yakovyev approved a big program of meetings, concerts and other manifestations. Festive meetings were held at Tiraspol University and cinemas. Dniester leaders did not declare yet their position on these manifestations.

Russian Embassy Refrains From Granting Citizenship

AU0611204993 Chisinau BASAPRESS in English 2048 GMT 5 Nov 93

[Text] Tiraspol, BASAPRESS 5/11/1993—Vladimir Cebotar, head of Dniester's Directorate for External Ties, stated to DNIESTROVSKAYA PRAVDA (Truth of Dniester) that the Russian Consular Section in Moldova will no longer grant audiences in Tiraspol. These audiences concerned the granting of Russian citizenship. The reason for this decision is that the Chisinau Ministry of External Ties had protested against granting this citizenship to people in the Dniester region. Those wishing to get Russian citizenship should present documents to the Consular Section of the Russian Embassy in Chisinau. Cebotar stressed that people who have already accepted Dniester citizenship will be unable to get the Russian one anyway, since Moldova signed no agreement in Moscow to allow double citizenship with other countries, including Moldova.

Kazakhstan

Nazarbayev Signs Decree on Stabilizing Money System

LD0511181793 Almaty Kazakh Radio Network in Kazakh 1500 GMT 5 Nov 93

[Text] Kazakhstan's President Nazarbayev issued a decree on urgent measures aimed at stabilizing the monetary system. It says: Stopping the use of 1961-92 banknotes issued by the state bank and the Bank of Russia on the territory of some CIS countries led to a sharp increase in the illegal inflow of such banknotes to Kazakhstan. This undermines this country' financial system, aggravates inflationary processes, and lowers people's living standards. With the aim of defending the economic interests of the people and the state and stabilizing the monetary system all the banks, irrespective of their form of property, can receive 1961-92 Russian banknotes from people and juridical bodies on a specified account without the right to spend them until the National Bank of the Republic Kazakhstan issues special instructions.

In order to maintain the existing regulation on banks receiving from enterprises cash which they have obtained as payment for first priority services and goods according to the inventory which was confirmed by the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic Kazakhstan. Banks are charged with the task of remitting 1961-92 banknotes which have been transferred to an account from 1 October 1993 and which have not been used by 5 November 1993 to a specified account without the right to use them.

Heads of regional, city, and district administrations should set up special commissions with the participation of represenataives of the National Bank, the chief State Tax Directorate, the Ministry of Finance, and the State Committee on Finances and Financial Control of the Republic Kazakhstan in order to check the sources and lawfulness of these funds' origin. To hold up the registration of newly created enterprises and opening new accounts by enterprises and banks, both for individuals and juridical bodies, until the Cabinet of Ministers and the National Bank of the Republic Kazakhstan issue special instructions.

Cash in 1961-92 banknotes of the bank and the State Bank of Russia which is being brought in by citizens and juridical bodies of the CIS countries which have switched over to the use of the national currency or which have declared the introduction of it, exceeding 100,000 rubles and impounded by the main customs directorate of the Ministry of Interior and the National Security body of the Republic of Kazakhstan will be confiscated and sent to the National Bank of the Republic of Kazakhstan.

Due to the planned measures, banks and enterprises are instructed to widely use all forms of noncash payments in retail trade and in the sphere of paid services.

The National Bank and the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Kazakhstan should supervise the implementation of the above mentioned decree.

Cabinet Supports Decree

LD0611201993 Almaty Kazakh Radio Network in Kazakh 1500 GMT 6 Nov 93

[Text] The Cabinet of Ministers of Kazakhstan has adopted a resolution on measures aimed at implementing Nazarbayev's decree on urgent measures aimed at stabilizing the monetary system. It stresses the need to compile an inventory of the top priority services and goods cash proceeds in the banks of 1961-1992 banknotes of the State Bank of the USSR and the Bank of Russia, received as a result of actual sales [words indistinct], food produce, household goods, all kinds of fuel, medication, city and inter-city transport, consumer, and communications services, municipal services, legal, and formal services.

State trade outlets and public services should exercise strict rationing when selling the above mentioned goods. Transport enterprises are allowed to sell tickets only three days in advance.

Nazarbayev Signs Statute on Asiatic Development Bank

LD0611110993 Almaty Kazakh Radio Network in Kazakh 0700 GMT 6 Nov 93

[Text] President Nazarbayev has signed a statute related to the activities of the Asiatic Bank of Development and has instructed the Republican National Bank to receive deposits of all funds that belong to the Asiatic Bank of Development and also of other assets of this bank in accordance with an agreement on its approval.

The National Bank has been chosen as an official body to deal with the Asiatic Bank of Development on issues arising within the framework of the above-mentioned agreement. The statute also stipulates that the National Bank should coordinate its activities with the government. It is charged with the task of fulfilling all operations and transactions stipulated by an agreement on founding the Asiatic BAnk of Development and accepting on behalf of Kazakhstan all funds or credits in the form of foreign loans within the maximum credit limit quarantees granted or paid to it and also ensuring recurrent payment of membership dues to the Asiatic Bank of Development.

Agreements Signed with Lithuanian Delegation

LD0711180493 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 1700 GMT 7 Nov 93

[Text] On his way to the People's Republic of China, Republic of Lithuania President Algirdas Brazauskas and his party arrived in Almaty, the capital of Kazakhstan, at 1200 Lithuanian time today.

The president was met at the airport by Kazakhstan Prime Minister Sergey Tereshchenko, Deputy Prime Minister Syzdyk Abishev, Foreign Minister Tuleutai Suleymenov, and other ministers.

From the airport Algirdas Brazauskas went to the president's office where he met President of Kazakhstan Nursultan Nazarbayev. The president of Kazakhstan congratulated the Lithuanian president and the state delegation on the restoration of Lithuania's independence. Following this, the meeting of the two state delegations began. An inter-state treaty on cooperation was signed by the two presidents in the blue hall of the president's office. This is the second such treaty to be signed with a CIS country. We would like to remind you that the first such treaty was signed with Russia.

Several interdepartamental agreements, a protocol on cooperation between the ministries of foreign affairs of the republics of Lithuania and Kazakhstan, and an agreement on combating crime were also signed today. A news conference was held in the afternoon.

Meetings will start in China tomorrow.

Kyrgyzstan

President Laments CIS Reaction to Separate Currency

MK0611142093 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 6 Nov 93 p 3

[Unattributed NEGA report in the "Kyrgyzstan" column]

[Text] The introduction of the national currency has entailed both positive and negative consequences. This was noted by A. Akayev in his address to the Supreme Soviet in the approach to the upcoming session. According to Akayev, the republic's leadership has managed to prevent hyperinflation and a runaway growth in prices after the reform of the money system. In Akayev's opinion, some serious miscalculations have been made. In particular Akayev pointed out that the introduction of the national currency has compounded the republic's relations with the CIS market, eliminated customs benefits, and led to an outflow of capital and a reduction in imports. Analyzing the reasons for what has happened, the Kyrgyzstan president stressed that "it was difficult to anticipate the overly tough reaction on the part of our CIS partners to the introduction of the national currency." On prospects for a currency union, Akayev said that such a ruble-based union could be feasible only with close political and economic integration of the currency union member states. But, the address to the Supreme Soviet stresses, such integration is hardly possible in the near term.

Foreign Minister Karabayev Returns From Turkey

LD0611160093 Bishkek Kyrgyz Radio First Program Network in Russian 1110 GMT 6 Nov 93

[Text] A news conference was given today by Kyrgyz Foreign Minister Ednan Karabayev on the results of his visit to Turkey. The visit lasted from 27 October to 1 November. It was rated highly by the minister. The foreign minister was received by Turkish President Demirel. He also had meetings with the ministers of foreign affairs, culture, and education. Karabayev attended the ceremony dedicated to the 70th anniversary of Turkish Republic.

The minister conveyed to Demirel the personal message of Kyrgyz President Askar Akayev in which he congratulated the Turkish leadership on their national holiday. President Demirel reported that a decision has been taken on granting an additional credit worth $25 million to Kyrgyzstan. Now it has to be implemented. With regard to the main Turkish credit, worth $75 million, it has already been put into operation. It covers seven major projects in the republic. There are good possibilities for expanding trade-economic cooperation; 16 joint Turkish-Kyrgyz enterprises have been set up and around 1,000 businessmen have displayed interest in establishing contacts with their Kyrgyzstan counterparts.

Good conditions are available for developing contacts in the sphere of public education, culture, and transport. Around 600 students and schoolchildren from our republic are now studying in the colleges, lyceums, and higher educational establishments of Turkey. Several of our professors teach in Ankara and Istanbul colleges and two Kyrgyzstan-Turkish lyceums and technical college have been opened in Kyrgyzstan. An agreement was reached on [word indistinct] students scholarships, on providing them with medical treatment and textbooks and manuals. The Bishkek-Istanbul air route, which operates twice a week, plays an important role in our cooperation. The minister also spoke about the immediate plans of his ministry and answered numerous questions.

Commercial SS-18 Missile Launch Set for Dec

LD0511224893 Bishkek Kyrgyz Radio First Program Network in Kyrgyz 0000 gmt 5 Nov 93

[Text] The government of Kazahstan has confirmed that the the [name indistinct] private corporation is organizing a major commercial launching of an SS-18 ballistic missile from Baykonur space site this December. According to the Almaty newspaper OGNI ALATAU, the project is being implemented on instructions of the national air-space agency [word indistinct] in collaboration with a number of Ukranian and Russian companies. It is planned to use missile-carriers located on the territory of Kazakhstan and due for annihilation in accordance with the SALT I Treaty.

Tajikistan

Thirty Afghan Soldiers Surrender to Border Guards

LD0611152293 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1415 GMT 6 Nov 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Moscow, 6 Nov—Thirty armed servicemen of the 78th border troops brigade of the Islamic State of Afghanistan led by Colonel-General Begi from the Afghan settlement of Sher Khan in the Imam Saheb district of the Kunduz province crossed the river Pyandzh today at 1200 and surrendered to the border guards on the Tajik-Afghan border. Tajik Foreign Minister Rashid Olimov said this over the telephone to an ITAR-TASS correspondent. At the moment, they are at the compound of the group of border troops of the Russian Federation and Tajikistan.

Rashid Olimov said that in accordance with the good-neighborly and friendly spirit that has always reigned on that stretch of the border, all possible provisions were made to create normal living conditions for the detainees. The Tajikistan Government, moved by humane considerations, expresses its readiness to settle the issue of returning the detainees to the territory of the Islamic State of Afghanistan if and when a corresponding request is received from the central authorities in Kabul, the minister said.

Afghan, Islamic Groups Suffer Losses in Attack

LD0611192793 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1705 GMT 6 Nov 93

[Text] On Saturday [6 November] two armed groups of militants from the Islamic Revival Party and Afghan mujaheddin numbering 50 and 70 men attempted to cross the border river at the sector guarded by the 12th frontier station. Russian border guards and servicemen from the 201st Motorized Infantry Division opened fire and prevented them from reaching the other bank. The exact number of losses sustained by the trespassers is unknown.

Mirzoyev on National Dialogue, Draft Constitution

MK0511162093 Moscow KOMMERSANT-DAILY in Russian 5 Nov p 4

[Oleg Medvedev report: "Situation in Tajikistan. Dushanbe Ready To Do Anything for the Sake of Ruble Zone"]

[Text] Tajikistan will meet all Russia's requirements in order to stay in the ruble zone. This was stated in yesterday's press conference in Moscow by Tajik Vice Premier Rustam Mirzoyev.

Tajikistan, in the words of Mr. Mirzoyev, "is prepared to hand over its gold and hard currency fund to a unified bank. This is an elementary requirement for a single ruble zone." Dushanbe will satisfy all Moscow's requirements if only Tajikistan stays in the ruble zone. "To jostle us out of there would be very hard to do," the vice premier stated.

Central to the news conference was the question of drafting a new Tajik constitution. Anatoliy Adamishin, first deputy Russian foreign minister, told your KOMMERSANT-DAILY correspondent the other day that the Dushanbe authorities have drawn up two drafts of a fundamental law with the participation of American experts. In Mr. Adamishin's words, they "match advanced standards of democracy, although speaking about democracy under the conditions of an eastern country, under the conditions of domination by traditional customs, is not the same thing as speaking about democracy sitting down on the shore of Lake Geneva."

Rustam Mirzoyev advised that under one of the drafts, Tajikistan would be a parliamentary republic, which would make it possible to balance the interests of the regions: "We should not retreat from parochialism, but should make use of it in the right way. It is proposed to create in the new parliament a second chamber—a council of the oblasts and nationalities.

It appears from Mr. Mirzoyev's statements that in the process of reaching national reconciliation Dushanbe assigns the key role to a new constitution; whereas Moscow, judging from the repeated statements of its spokesmen, prefers a dialogue of the government with the opposition. Rustam Mirzoyev stated yesterday that people in Dushanbe are ready for a dialogue with the opposition, but they do not know "how and whom with to conduct talks:" In Mirzoyev's view, the Moscow-based part of the opposition represents no one. As for the opposition men on the lam in Afghanistan, they have been proclaimed outlaws. Given this approach, Dushanbe can hardly hope for an effective dialogue inside the nation. As a matter of fact, the more influential part of the opposition, who do not renounce the "all or nothing" principle, are in no hurry to sit down at the negotiating table.

Authorities Take Steps To Help Afghan Refugees

LD0711173093 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1125 GMT 7 Nov 93

[Text] Foreign Minister Rashid Olimov has said that taking into consideration the forced character of crossing the border, everything possible is being done to organize normal conditions for these people on the territory of Tajikistan. On the instructions of Imamali Rakhmanov, the head of state and chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the republic, a group of plenipotentiary representatives of the republic headed by Shukur Zuhurov, minister of labor and employment, has left for this part of the

Tajik-Afghan border. Lieutenant General Anatoliy Chechulin, the commander of the group of border guards of the Russian Federation in Tajikistan, is also there.

Measures are being taken to provide essential facilities and organize catering and medical services for the people who were forced to cross the state border, including civilians.

The head of state has entrusted Abdudzhalom Salimov, chairman of Khatlon Oblast executive committee, to coordinate the measures. The Tajik government expresses readiness to resolve the problem of returning the Afghan refugees to their homeland, Foreign Minister Rashid Olimov said.

Turkmenistan

President Niyazov Criticizes Steep Price Hikes

PM0811112193 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 5 Nov 93 First Edition p 2

[Vladimir Kuleshov report: "Saparmurat Turkmenbashy Calls For Retail Price Cuts"]

[Text] IZVESTIYA's own correspondent is no longer invited to Turkmen Cabinet of Ministers sessions. But even in the brief TV news report on this conference of ministerial and departmental leaders it was clearly noticeable just how discouraged and angry Saparmurad Turkmenbashy [Niyazov] was about the stubborn inefficiency shown by his officials.

"Either you simply do not understand me, or you do understand me, but do the opposite," he said. "But I will no longer allow you to raise meat and butter prices, because these are state goods! I will not allow you to change the prices of state resources and services! Excess profits must not be earned at the population's expense."

Had this been the first time it had been mentioned, people would have forgotten all about it. But the problem is that no sooner had President S. Niyazov set off for Belgium just a month ago than the price of meat, butter, rice, cheese, cigarettes, and other necessities shot up, putting world prices into the shade by comparison. Just imagine butter suddenly costing 8,000 rubles [R] in the state trading system instead of R300, meat costing R6,000, or market traders doubling their prices in turn. And it happened...

Today, for instance, installation of a telephone costs 100 manats. But, under a presidential decree, each working citizen of the republic has been issued just 60 manats in exchange for 30,000 Russian rubles.

But certain commercial and savings banks issued thick wads of manats to some people upon presentation of false passports. Not for nothing did the expensive color TV's on sale specially for the new currency disappear like a flash from an Ashgabat department store during the first few days of November. Just try finding out now who bought them. "Funds are draining out of the banks, and there are no controls," S. Niyazov noted.

Nor have there been any controls on the part of the ministries, departments, and the deputies of the Turkmenbashi himself, who have received decent salary payments in the new currency. No clear attention has been paid by the press or television to the initial results of the incipient reform. And how could there be, if journalists have now to all intents and purposes been removed from the picture, with the newspapers being placed under strict censorship. Having censored the press, the government and the president himself have thereby rid themselves of their true supporters.

Further on Niyazov's Comments

LD0511202393

[Editorial Report] Moscow Ostankino Television First Channel Network in Russian at 1200 GMT on 5 November broadcasts a brief report on Turkmenistan's President Niyazov's censure of recent price hikes. Over video of street scenes and shots of markets, correspondent Mergen Amanov reports that price increases have followed the introduction of the national currency. Over video of President Niyazov addressing a meeting, Amanov says:

"President Saparmurad Niyazov of Turkmenistan said that the introduction of free prices in no way means that they should be raised artificially. He called for a reduction in the prices of a number of goods and services. Stabilization of the manat and structural reorganization and development of foreign economic ties are unthinkable without the state playing an active role, the president stressed."

Uzbekistan

Delegation Holds Talks With Russia on Ruble Zone

PM0811100193 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 4 Nov 93 p 1

[Adilbek Kaipbergenov report: "Ruble Zone Behind High Fence"]

[Text] Tashkent—Uzbekistan is being shamelessly forced out of the "ruble zone." That was how Uzbek Deputy Prime Minister Bakhtiyar Khamidov assessed at a news conference the results of eight rounds of talks between Russian and Uzbek delegations. The vice premier said that the Russian Government had put forward crushing new conditions lacking any justification and not previously agreed, casting doubt on the Russian leaders' sincerity in declaring the importance of the single economic space.

There are five of these conditions. 1) Money received from Russia must be treated as a loan, at the corresponding rate of interest. 2) Half the total loan must be backed by a hard currency pledge, for which over 40 tonnes of Uzbek gold will be required. 3) The rate of exchange of old bank notes for new is fixed as it is..."on

the black market," that is 3:1. 4) Uzbekistan must redeem its own cash and noncash assets [oborot] to the tune of 1.6 trillion rubles. 5) The Central Bank of Uzbekistan must become a branch of the Central Bank of Russia (this is instead of setting up an interbank center, as the accords among the CIS heads of state envisaged).

Bakhtiyar Khamidov considers that these terms are unacceptable and that the republic cannot agree to them. This being the case, the need arises for it to formulate its own program for switching to a national currency.

The disappointment over Russia's actions attests to a serious crisis within the CIS. Literally sackloads of cash in the form of 1961-1992 bank notes are being brought into Uzbekistan and into neighboring Kazakhstan, which has not introduced its own currency. Despite all efforts by the customs, the old money is sweeping up [smetayut] goods and seriously destabilizing the economic situation.

Bakhtiyar Khamidov also cited other cases of flagrant violations of the accords, including accords sealed at the highest level. The incumbent Russian leaders are evidently transferring their methods of combating their own parliament to the once-fraternal republics. But what is to happen to the hundreds of thousands of "Russian speakers" living in the republic, for whose urgent travel even the chairman of the Central Bank Board has to strive by fair means or foul to get 1993-issue money? Perhaps these people too could be useful in the conclaves where major policy is decided. Like, moreover, the collectives of the numerous enterprises in both Russia and Uzbekistan whose plants and factories could shut down owing to nonpayments between the states.

Khamidov, Russia's Shokhin Discuss Zone

LD0511201493 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1525 GMT 5 Nov 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Oleg Velichko]

[Text] Moscow November 5 TASS—The government delegation from Russia and Uzbekistan headed by vice premiers Aleksandr Shokhin and Bakhtiyar Khamidov held talks in the Russian Government building on Staraya Square today on the formation of a new rouble zone.

After the talks, Aleksandr Shokhin told ITAR-TASS that the delegations had agreed on the main provisions of a joint protocol which would probably be signed later today.

The two delegations are also expected to sign an agreement on trade payments. Both sides have spoken in favour of continued joint actions to unify their monetary systems.

Uzbekistan's prime minister said the republic intended to introduce a temporary tender called Som-coupons to deal with shortages and protect the domestic market. Khamidov did not say when the new notes would be released into circulation.

"Uzbekistan favours a new rouble zone and the government intends to continue work in this direction", he stressed.

Further on Bilateral Talks

LD0511214093 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1739 GMT 5 Nov 93

[Text] Uzbek Vice Prime Minister Bakhtiyar Khamidov has officially informed his Russian counterpart, Aleksandr Shokhin, of his country's intention to introduce a temporary currency, the som-coupon.

As Shokhin told journalists on Friday, the som-coupon will circulate on the Uzbek territory parallelly with Soviet and Russian banknotes issued from 1961 to 1992. He pointed out that during their telephone conversation the two sides hoped that the work on the reunification of their monetary systems will continue at the same pace, and the very reunification will be the next step.

Khamidov said the decision to introduce the "temporary means of payment" was caused by the cash deficit in the republic. The conditions Russia puts forward for granting its new money are "unacceptable" according to Khamidov. In particular, they envision a certain interest rate on the credit to be granted, a collateral of 40 tons of gold etc.

Khamidov declined to indicate the proposed rate of the som-coupon against the ruble and the date when the new monetary unit will be introduced. "This will be clear in three or five days," the Uzbek Vice Prime Minister said.

Karimov Explains Plan To Introduce New Currency

LD0611171293 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1347 GMT 6 Nov 93

[Text] Addressing an enlarged cabinet session in Tashkent on Friday [5 November], President Islam Karimov reiterated Uzbekistan's intention to switch over to a currency of its own. He stressed that the republic had spared no effort to remain in the ruble zone. However, in his words, "Moscow has been setting ever new demands".

No wonder, the president remarked, "we are compelled now to draw up a program of introducing our own money."

The meeting discussed the pace of economic reform in Uzbekistan. According to statistics cited at the session, over 9 months of 1993 budget revenues exceeded expenditures in the republic. Industrial production over January-September grew at the rate of 102 percent, consumer goods production - 113 percent, the gross domestic product - 101 percent. The minimum wage and pension has risen 7 fold since the start of this year.

At the same time, Uzbekistan's economic stagnation was blamed on disrupted ties with Russia and other CIS states and on new difficulties in mutual accounts with the former ruble zone countries.

Armenia

Supply Trains From Georgia Resume Deliveries

NC0511183893 Yerevan SNARK in English 1500 GMT 5 Nov 93

[Text] Yerevan, November 5. (SNARK)—After a day's break the trains from Georgia are coming to Armenia. Press-Service of the Armenian Railway Department told SNARK about 170 wagons with fuel, flour and grain came to Armenia in a period of the latest two days. About a hundred of wagons are at the Samtredia and Sadakhlo stations. They will come to Armenia in the nearest future. The trains' movement renewal became possible thanks to the Russian troops—those who are controlling the railway through the territory of the Western Georgia.

Dam 'Emergency' Affects Yerevan Electric Supply

NC0511185293 Yerevan SNARK in English 1500 GMT 5 Nov 93

[Text] Yerevan, November 5 (SNARK)—The Yerevan residents have no more than two hours of electricity. After the emergency at the ArznyElectro Station, the Razdan River, the situation became worse. Press-Center of the Armenian Government told SNARK the reconstruction has already begun. It will take about half a month.

Azerbaijan

Aliyev Calls for Strengthening of Army

LD0511214793 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1731 GMT 5 Nov 93

[Report by correspondents Andrey Pershin, Andrey Petrovskiy, and Vladimir Shishlin; edited by Boris Grishchenko; from the "Presidential Bulletin" feature]

[Text] President Geydar Aliyev told veterans of Afghan war that the psychological climate in Azerbaijan should be changed in the face of Armenian aggression. He said that defense, protection of the country's sovereignty and integrity were the goals of the entire nation and called for strengthening the national army, "which should be done by the entire nation."

Aliyev said that numerous letters were coming from all parts of the country in which people expressed their willingness to defend the country's independence and integrity. The president emphasized, however, that the country's leaders would prefer using peaceful means to resolve the conflict. Aliyev added that "as experience shows, the quest for peace should be backed by appropriate defenses."

The Azerbaijani leader said that there were about 10,000 veterans of the Afghan war in the republic and most of them "should help in building national armed forces." The country's defense ministry has been given appropriate orders, Aliyev said.

A senior official in the president's headquarters, who wished to remain anonymous, told Interfax that the country's leaders were discussing the imposition of martial law in the country. In his words, this does not require calling parliament into session because the president alone can make this decision. Parliament can be convened only to endorse it.

Meanwhile, an informed source in parliament said that Milli Mejlis commissions had started discussing martial law legislation this week. A bill calls for restrictions to be placed on freedoms of expression and assembly, introduction of censorship and new regulations in factories.

IF [INTERFAX] Note: Baku Mayor Rafael Allakhverdiyev ordered the closure of shops and services at 20:00 from Thursday and banned events such as weddings after 22:00. Discotheques, casinos and similar establishments have been closed until further notice. Only buffets will operate in hotels, rail stations and sea and airports after 21:00. The order is said to be issued in the light of the tense situation in the war zone and in Baku.

Meanwhile, the parliamentary session scheduled for Thursday did not take place for a reason which remains unknown thus far. The opposition said that the country's leaders headed by Aliyev are afraid that parliament may criticize the executive authority, in particular for the latest setbacks of the Azerbaijani army in the country's southwest.

Sources in the opposition Popular Front told Interfax that 17 of the 50 Milli Mejlis members had signed an address to the country's leaders demanding that parliament should be called into session immediately to discuss the critical political situation in the aftermath of the territorial losses in the southwest.

Another senior official in the presidential headquarters, who also wanted to remain anonymous, regretted the Russian Foreign Ministry's inconsistent position on the Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict.

He recalled Moscow's statement of August 10 saying that "further territorial acquisitions (by Armenia - IF) would be regarded by the international community as irresponsible violation of the international law and strongly denounced." Unfortunately, he emphasized, the ministry's statement of October 26, which was made public after Armenian forces captured the Jebrail, Fizuli and Zangelan districts of Azerbaijan, failed to denounce the latest Armenian aggression.

The official said that resolution of the Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict, "in which the Armenian aggression becomes increasingly obvious," would largely depend on whether Russia was able to be consistent and fair.

Aliyev Rejects Martial Law Unless Situation Worsens

MK0611141093 Moscow SEGODNYA in Russian No. 75, 6 Nov 93 (Signed to press 5 Nov) p 5

[Leyla Alibeyli report in the "Azerbaijan" column: "The Talk About Imposing Martial Law Is Premature, the Republic's Presidential Apparatus Says"]

[Text] The report filed by a number of Russian mass media outlets about a possible introduction of martial law in Azerbaijan does not correspond to reality, SEGODNYA's correspondent was told at the press service of President Aliyev's staff. "This is merely a provocation aimed against Azerbaijan," they said. The TV Azerbaijan News Service, whose footage was shown in the evening "Vesti" program of Russian TV on 4 November, categorically denies its involvement in disseminating such reports.

President Aliyev in his TV address to the people said that "there is no need to introduce martial law in the republic at present, but if the situation on the front deteriorates," then he "will be forced to take such a step." According to Aliyev, these matters should be dealt with by the Azerbaijan Defense Council created recently under his edict, and it is essential not to yield to provocation but to strengthen the republic's defense capability.

These rumors, however, are not groundless since the power crisis in Baku is well in evidence and further destabilization in the republic is possible. The activity by the Azerbaijan opposition has intensified following the latest defeats suffered by the national army. If, after Zangelan, yet another Azerbaijan area is surrendered, the fall of Aliyev's regime will be inevitable. The opposition says that it intends to take power into its own hands by using the present situation.

Rumors are also circulating in the republic about the mutual discontent between President Aliyev and Prime Minister Surat Guseynov. In a conversation with SEGODNYA's correspondent one of Mr. Aliyev's close associates said that "in spite of the mistrust that Aliyev has recently developed toward Guseynov, there are no fundamental differences between them." According to information from reliable sources, however, S. Guseynov often visits Gyandzha and should he be removed from his post of premier, he is ready to start a mutiny again.

People's Front Fails To Seize Power in Nakhichevan

PM0811113493 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 5 Nov 93 First Edition p 1,6

[Arif Useynov report under the rubric "We Report the Details": "Attempt To Seize Power in Nakhichevan Fails"]

[Text] Baku—Using armed formations stationed in the autonomous republic, the People's Front leaders made a second attempt at seizing power. On the first occasion, the People's Front tried to remove Nakhichevan Assembly Chairman Geydar Aliyev from power. This time the situation was rather different.

Following the flight of Abulfaz Elchibey to the mountain village of Keleki, the members of the People's Front took real steps to turn Nakhichevan into a citadel of their influence. The ex-president has made the village of Keleki a kind of opposition resistance headquarters. The Ordubadskiy Rayon local organs are under the direct control of People's Front gunmen. For a long time, appeals and measures taken to disarm the armed formations yielded no tangible results, since the chief of the Ordubad police had taken the gunmen under his own protection.

The Nakhichevan Republic Ministry of Internal Affairs was forced to remove him from his post —and that is how the trouble started: During the gunmen's attempt to take the Ministry of Internal Affairs building and other actions, clashes with the law enforcement forces occurred. There were casualties.

Like in the first case, the population of the autonomous republic gathered in Nakhichevan for a grand rally in defense of the lawful power, and demanded that Azerbaijani President Geydar Aliyev introduce a state of emergency in the city, disarm all unlawful armed formations, and rid Keleki of People's Front functionaries, who are trying to cobble together something along the lines of a shadow leadership of Azerbaijan, justifying this on the grounds that they consider the recent presidential elections unlawful.

In connection with the new attacks by the People's Front, the presidential press service is explaining that the illegal actions in Nakhichevan are not local. The People's Front leadership has conducted a secret conference in the rayon center, Saatly, where it formulated tactics for destabilizing the situation, sowing rumors, and carrying out acts of sabotage in refugee camps.

Karabakh Official Lists Conditions for Peace Process

LD0611201593 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1705 GMT 6 Nov 93

[Text] According to the foreign minister of the unilaterally proclaimed Nagorno-Karabakh Republic, Arkady Gukasian, "a peace process in Nagorno-Karabakh may become a reality if the parties to the conflict, the world community and the mediator nations agree to simultaneously solve three priority problems: the political status of Nagorno-Karabakh, lifting of the blockade of Armenia and withdrawal of (Nagorno-Karabakh troops) from the occupied territories (of Azerbaijan)."

Gukasian told the newspaper Vremya (Time) coming out in the Nagorno-Karabakh capital Stepanakert, that he still regarded direct contacts between Nagorno-Karabakh and Azerbaijan as the main instrument for achieving peace. "Such contacts are being made today,

some of them at the highest level. Although Azerbaijan has lately held an extremely unconstructive position, I consider the dialogue between Stepanakert and Baku an achievement for both sides," he said.

Commenting on prospects for Azerbaijan changing its mind about Nagorno-Karabakh's political status, the minister said: "Nobody would maintain today that Azerbaijan is ready to make any serious concessions, although the current objective developments make it clear that Azerbaijan cannot avoid it. If our negotiation partners make concessions on the status of Nagorno-Karabakh, we will be ready to withdraw our troops from the occupied territories."

He said the Nagorno-Karabakh leadership feared that, "gaining time and strengthening itself in the political and military respects, Azerbaijan may no longer be willing to continue the dialogue." Therefore "we ought to hurry up and try and solve many of the problems today," Gukasian said.

Mitterrand Receives Foreign Minister Gasanov

LD0511222993 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1431 GMT 5 Nov 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Igor Shchegolev]

[Text] Paris, 5 Nov—France advocates the signing of a "territorial treaty" between Azerbaijan and Armenia to confirm the borders between the two states. French President Francois Mitterrand proposed this at a meeting today with Azeri Foreign Minister Gasan Gasanov who is on a brief visit there.

Replying to questions from an ITAR-TASS correspondent after the meeting, Gasanov described the initiative as "very valuable" and as answering Baku's desire to achieve a political settlement of the conflict around Nagorno-Karabakh. According to him, during the "first official meeting between the French head of state and the Azeri foreign minister" France confirmed its position.

France is against changing state borders by armed methods. It advocates political settlements to conflicts. This fully meets the interests of the Azeri side. Azerbaijan has always attached much importance to France's opinion, "the legislator of world policy", the minister said. According to him, a wide range of issues of the Frebnch-Azeri political and economic cooperation was discussed during the talks.

Galiyev Elected New National Assembly Chairman

LD0511204993 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1617 GMT 5 Nov 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondents Sevinj Abdullayeva and Victor Shulman]

[Text] Baku November 5 TASS—Rasul Guliyev, who until, recently was Azerbaijan's vice premier, has been elected chairman of the republic's parliament by a majority of votes. The new speaker, who is 46 years old, is a relatively young politician. He was educated as an engineer, and before his appointment to the Cabinet of Ministers was the director of a major refinery in Baku and then vice president of the State Oil Company.

Guliyev, who was elected to the republic's parliament earlier, said in his address after being elected to the new post that he was a supporter of (President) Geydar Aliyev's policy and ideas". [quotation marks as received]

He also pledged that all efforts will be made by himself and the parliament to pull the republic out of the critical situation.

Rasul Guliyev was nominated for the post by President Geydar Aliyev.

Baku Warns Foreigners Against Engaging in Spying

NC0511194193 Baku Azerbaycan Radio Televizivasi Television Network in Azeri 1600 GMT 5 Nov 93

[Statement issued by the Azerbaijani National Security Ministry; place and date not given]

[Text] The trend toward domestic stability in our Republic has been gaining ground recently. The people expressed their opinion in the 20 August referendum the result of which was recognized and endorsed abroad, in the 3 October presidential election, and in electing Geydar Aliyev as the Azerbaijani Republic's president whom they deeply trust and respect. By so doing, they expressed their positive attitude toward the ongoing processes in the country and their support for peace, security, national unity, and for a strong, independent, and territorially integrated Azerbaijan.

The new regime that recently came to power is undertaking productive and fruitful work to extricate our country from its grave condition, end the war peacefully, recover our occupied land, solve the refugee problem, and develop state, political, economic, military, and social institutions.

The situation in the Republic cannot but give rise to concern. The occupation of 25 percent of our territory by the enemy, the existence of nearly 1 million refugees, the failures suffered in the war have increased the tension.

Information reaching National Security Ministry organs shows that some internal and foreign forces, including criminal and mafioso groups belonging to the former ruling circles, their illegal armed groups, and other elements have not given up their evil aims. They are secretly and overtly pursuing their terror, sabotage, and acts of destabilization against the state institutions and leaders. Our economy is intentionally being harmed, our national wealth is being taken out, and our state and other strategically important (?objects) are not being protected sufficiently.

The uncontrolled flow of foreigners to our Republic, as if there is an open door, is (?continuing). They could go

around and collect information about any government, military, and commercial institution. Even if such activities are considered natural and legal under conditions of democracy, the facts show that the special services and organizations of the foreign countries are using the existing foreign missions and various [word indistinct] channels in Azerbaijan to advance their own higher interests. They are nurturing the (?plague) of espionage in our country.

Regrettably, the territories of the neighboring states are being used more to launch this (?evil) activity against our Republic and to organize and implement terrorism and sabotage.

The National Security Ministry deems it necessary to say that all these activities are being watched closely and followed and declares that resolute measures will be taken against any activity directed against the state security of the Azerbaijani Republic.

Georgia

Shevardnadze Carries Out Activities 5-8 Nov

Considers Amnesty for Zviadists

LD0511182593 Moscow ITAR-TASS in English 1802 GMT 5 Nov 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Albert Kochetkov]

[Text] Tbilisi November 5 TASS—Georgian leader Eduard Shevardnadze is preparing a decree offering amnesty to armed supporters of ousted president Zviad Gamsakhurdia, called Zviadisti after their leader, to encourage them to give up resistance to Tbilisi authorities and lay down arms, well-informed unofficial sources told ITAR-TASS today.

Shevardnadze is seeking to prevent bloodshed and fratricide in this phase of civil war in western Georgia, which is nearing its end with the capture of Zugdidi, the last stronghold of the former Georgian president ousted by Shevardnadze.

Shevardnadze's press secretariat has not confirmed the report about the amnesty, but said Eduard Shevardnadze is committed to the use of all possible peaceful means for settling the conflict in western Georgia.

Urges Zugdidi To Surrender

LD0611114693 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1000 GMT 6 Nov 93

[Text] Georgian head of state Eduard Shevardnadze, on a special television channel broadcasting to Zugdidi, has called on the city's population to cease resistance and surrender its weapons. Zugdidi is the last stronghold of ex-President Zviad Gamsakhurdia's supporters.

Meanwhile, Interfax reports that the city is still in the hands of the ex-president's supporters. Georgian commanders yesterday announced that the attack on Zugdidi had begun.

Visits Zugdidi

LD0711151193 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1315 GMT 7 Nov 93

[By ITAR-TASS correspondent Albert Kochetkov]

[Text] Tbilisi, 7 Nov—Today Eduard Shevardnadze, Georgian head of state, visited the town of Zugdidi in the west of the republic, which government forces entered yesterday, and studied the situation on the ground. This final stronghold for armed formations of ex-president Gamsakhurdia's supporters is now under the control of Georgian police and interior ministry subunits, ITAR-TASS learned from Shevardnadze's secretariat.

It is expected that the formation of local government bodies will begin in Zugdidi tomorrow.

Eduard Shevardnadze's press service reported that government troops were refraining from pursuing Zviad Gamsakhurdia's formations, and were not advancing to the Inguri river on the border with Abkhazia, where the Zviadists set up a new base yesterday after leaving Zugdidi.

According to some reports, Gamsakhurdia has taken cover in the rayon center of Gali in Abkhazia together with a group of deputies from the former Georgian Supreme Soviet and armed groups of his supporters.

Meets Ioseliani in Zugdidi

LD0711213693 Tbilisi First Program Television Network in Georgian 1800 GMT 7 Nov 93

[Report by unidentified correspondent in Zugdidi]

[Excerpts] Something we did not believe has happened. The rebels have left Zugdidi, which allowed government Army units to take control of the town without any fighting or bloodshed.

Eduard Shevardnadze, the head of state and chairman of parliament arrived in Zugdidi today. He and Jaba Ioseliani held an operational military meeting in the building of the so-called main directorate of the National Guard, more precisely, in the former office of Loti Kobalia. [passage omitted]

We have filmed two fighters of the Confederation of Peoples of the Caucasus who have been taken prisoner. Here they are, Salam Mereyev and Ptsir Katayev. You can also see Abkhaz combatants arrested in Zugdidi.

It is noteworthy that some of the ex-president's armed groups have fled into Abkhazia, while others are hiding in the woods. [passage omitted]

Finally, those who have gone to fight in western Georgia only in order to enrich themselves should know that

Russian servicemen are manning the checkpoints, and they are carrying out, to the letter, the duties with which they have been entrusted.

Appeals to Zugdidi Citizens for Support

LD0811154093 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1144 GMT 8 Nov 93

[Text] The situation in western Georgia had on the whole remained quiet since Sunday morning, the Georgian Interior Ministry press center said on Monday morning. The center told Interfax, however, that small scattered groups of armed rebels supporting Georgian ex-President Zviad Gamsakhurdia were still active in Zugdidi and Tsalendzhikha Districts.

Government forces on Sunday routed a pro-Gamsakhurdia detachment, which included Abkhazians and Chechens, near the village of Mukhuri, the center said. It said Abkhazian forces still controlled two villages near the Abkhazian-Georgian border but the Georgian army had not yet taken any action against them.

Edisher Charkazia, whom head of state Eduard Shevardnadze on Sunday appointed head of administration of Zugdidi, taken by government forces on November 6, said in a radio interview on Monday that the army had reached a bridge across the Inguri River separating Georgia from Abkhazia. He said no armed rebels had remained in Zugdidi itself, some of them being dispersed in the suburbs, others following Gamsakhurdia to Abkhazia.

The press center also said nine local residents who earlier fought on Gamsakhurdia's side were detained in Zugdidi for pillage and shot dead on the spot. A curfew has been imposed on the town between 7:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m.

Shevardnadze, who arrived in Zugdidi on Sunday, in a television program called on the local population to put an end to the consequences of Gamsakhurdia's revolt and help the authorities restore order in the town.

The press center of the Georgian Defense Ministry told Interfax that a civilian helicopter carrying Georgian Security Minister Igor Georgadze and several Russian military officers on Sunday came under unidentified fire near Poti. None of the passengers or crew were hurt. The attackers managed to escape.

Attends Emergency Meeting in Senaki

NC0811161393 Yerevan SNARK in English 1230 GMT 8 Nov 93

[Text] Tbilisi, November 8 (SNARK)—The Georgian head Eduard Shevardnadze, who is in Senaki now, participated today in the work of the session of the Committee of Emergency in western Georgia. Shevardnadze's Press-Center informs SNARK there were discussed the measures on establishing the order in the set free towns of the Western Georgia and the problems connected with the state structures activity in the region.

Chairs Meeting on Setting Tasks

LD0811164993 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 1600 GMT 8 Nov 93

[Text] A meeting of an interim committee for the emergency situation in Western Georgia was held in Zugdidi today. It was chaired by head of state Eduard Shevardnadze. Handling problems due to be settled as soon as possible was the principle issue to be discussed at the meeting. These problems are the restoration of order and providing the population with flour and fuel.

At the moment, some 243,000 local inhabitants and refugees have gathered in Zugdidi and the adjacent area. The government must do its best to improve the social conditions of these people and to halt looting and banditry in the very near future.

Government Forces Gain in Fighting in Western Areas

State Forces Nearing Chkhorotsku

LD0511170893 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 0900 GMT 5 Nov 93

[Text] Major Soso Margishvili, head of the Defense Ministry press service, has reported this morning from Kutaisi that there were no combat actions last night in the conflict zone.

The Khobi region has been completely cleared of the gangs of the former president's supporters. The government troops are advancing toward Chkhorotsku. The village of (Lesichini) has been liberated. The government troops are holding their positions near Zugdidi and, to avoid casualties, are not entering the town.

When asked if he had any information from Zugdidi, Soso Margishvili answered that a great part of the population in Zugdidi is loyal to the government but is frightened of revenge from the former president's supporters.

There is a shortage of bread and other foodstuffs in Zugdidi. The population is in panic.

The head of the press service has also reported that a curfew is in force in the towns and villages liberated by the government troops. Bread and power are available to the population. Television and radio transmissions are being received.

Chkhorotsku Falls

LD0511153293 Moscow Mayak Radio Network in Russian 1445 GMT 5 Nov 93

[Text] Zurab Dvali, a correspondent for the independent IPRINDA news agency, reports from the Georgian capital for Mayak listeners:

Georgian Government forces seized another Gamsakhurdia stronghold, Chkhorotsku, northeast of Zugdidi

this afternoon. Zugdidi remains the final stronghold of Zviad Gamsakhurdia's supporters.

Even the most cautious of experts and political observers note that pro-Gamsakhurdia forces are now clearly doomed.

Eduard Shevardnadze, the head of state, today visited Marneulskiy Rayon, where he met representatives of the local leadership and civilians. Marneuli residents accorded Shevardnadze a warm welcome, although there are still very many problems here, as in other regions that used to be near the front.

All the same, even in these regions, life is slowly returning to normal. The restoration of transport links facilitates this to a great extent.

Colonel Gennadiy Dolgachev, head of the press center of the headquarters of the Russian group of forces in the Transcausasus, noted in a conversation I had with him today that the 200 Black Sea Fleet marines who landed in Poti on 4 November began to protect the freight arriving in the town's port by sea.

As for other Russian servicemen who are in control of a railway trunk line in the west, they are carrying out their duties with precision in conjunction with the forces of law and order.

State Forces Enter Zugdidi

AU0611162893 Paris AFP in English 1610 GMT 6 Nov 93

[By Isabelle Astigarraga]

[Excerpts] Moscow, Nov 6 (AFP)—Georgian government forces on Saturday entered Zugdidi, the stronghold of Zviad Gamsakhurdia in the west of the republic, and were poised to take the town, the Georgian presidency told AFP.

Pockets of resistance were holding out at 5:00 p.m. (1400 GMT) as loyalist troops fought to bring the town under control, a spokesman said.

The seizure of the town, if confirmed, crowns a three-week offensive by the forces of President Eduard Shevardnadze, though the attempt by Gamsakhurdia, his predecessor, to regain power by force of arms continued as his forces fell back westwards towards Abkhazia.

"At 2 p.m. (1100 GMT), advance government forces entered (Zugdidi) without encountering any large-scale resistance. Forces loyal to Gamsakhurdia were withdrawing in disorder towards the Inguri River," spokesman Nodar Broladze told AFP by telephone.

He said Gamsakhurdia had spent the past four days in the region near Gali in Abkhazia, the northwestern region lost by government troops in September to Abkhazian rebels. There were no casualties among government forces, according to initial reports, he added.

A spokesman for Gamsakhurdia in Moscow said the rebel leader was still in Zugdidi on Friday. Tengiz Chachaba said he had received assurances that the rebel forces "may perhaps withdraw from Zugdidi but will go on fighting to the last drop of blood."

Gamsakhurdia launched an offensive in western Georgia last month in a bid to regain the power he lost in January 1992 after an insurgency against his authoritarian rule. [passage omitted]

The capture of Zugdidi would complete a remarkable turn of fortune for Shevardnadze.

Rebel forces had taken a string of towns and Shevardnadze's forces looked close to total defeat when he finally agreed to join the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) in mid-October, in exchange for which Russia was to send armoured vehicles and troops to defend major roads in western Georgia.

The CIS, which groups most of the ex-Soviet republics, has a mutual defense pact for member states.

The deployment of Russian troops enabled Tbilisi to send to the front Georgian forces previously guarding the railways from rebels.

Shevardnadze went to western Georgia last week to take personal command of the counter-offensive and has set up his headquarters in Abasha, a town near the battlefront.

His forces had been encountering increasingly determined resistance the further they penetrated into Mingrelia, the region in which Zugdidi is located. Gamsakhurdia is of Mingrelian origin.

Zugdidi Opposition Forces Overrun

LD0611214093 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1900 GMT 6 Nov 93

[Excerpts] On 6 November Georgian Government units entered the town of Zugdidi. [passage omitted]

Georgian official sources reported that the armed supporters of Gamsakhurdia did not offer any serious resistance to government troops during offensive operations near Zugdidi. All nongovernment units commanded by one of the ex-president's closest associates Vakhtang Kobalia, left their positions virtually without a fight and retreated in disorder to the Inguri River, which is on the border with Abkhazia.

It is not known where ex-president Gamsakhurdia is at present. Some sources report that he is in Gali district in Abkhazia, while according to another version the ex-president, to the good fortune of his people, has left for the mountains.

Curfew To Begin in 9 Towns

LD0511180093 Tbilisi First Program Television Network in Georgian 1700 GMT 5 Nov 93

[Text] The state minister of the Republic of Georgia and chairman of the temporary committee for the emergency situation in west Georgia has released a decree introducing a curfew.

The curfew is required in order to help normalize the grave criminal situation, to help erradicate marauding armed gangs, and secure the peace of the population in compliance with a decree by the head of state of Georgia, dated 14 September 1993. It will come into force on 6 November 1993 at 2200 [1900 GMT], and will last for one month in the towns of Sanitredia, Poti, Abasha, Senaki, Martvili, Khoni, Lanchkhuti, Ozurgeti and Vani.

The curfew will be in effect from 2200 to 0600.

Curfew Imposed on Zugdidi

LD0711112393 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1000 GMT 7 Nov 93

[Text] A curfew has been introduced in Zugdidi as from today, INTERFAX reports. This is linked to the fact that many supporters of Zviad Gamsakhurdia have not left for the Galskiy Rayon [Gali] of Abkhazia along with the ex-president, but have instead gone to ground in Zugdidi. Subunits of Georgia's interior troops and police force began to enter Zugdidi today. After they have gained complete control over the situation the government troops will be fully withdrawn from the city. This will take place in the next two days.

According to a report from the Georgian Interior Ministry's press center, Zviad Gamsakhurdia, having fled from Zugdidi, has set up a military headquarters eight kilometers from Gali. Around 1,000 of his armed supporters are there now.

Poti Official Updates Situation

LD0711170393 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 1300 GMT 7 Nov 93

[Excerpts] We would like you to hear a recording that we made several minutes ago on the telephone line. The administrator of Poti, Roman Melia, is on the line.

[Begin recording] [Melia] The situation has been great in Poti since [word indistinct] the Russian Army—or to be more precise, the ships—entered the port. They are controlling the situation. As you can imagine, there have been no criminal incidents for three or four days now. As of last night at 1900 GMT, the curfew has been in force, and the curfew is in accordance with all nuances and rules that should be observed during a curfew. [passage omitted]

[Unidentified Correspondent] Batoni [polite form of address], Roman, we know that Georgian Parliament Speaker Vakhtang Goguadze and Prime Minister Otar Patsatsia have arrived. What could you say about their visit?

[Melia] Batoni Vakhtang and Batoni Otar are at the moment visiting the port. They are here to take precautions once again so that nothing bad will happen in the region. They are here to coordinate joint work toward stabilization by the government units and the Russian units that arrived here by sea and whose ships are here. They are visiting Poti to carry out work in this direction. [passage omitted] [end recording]

More State Troops Enter Zugdidi

LD0711174293 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 1300 GMT 7 Nov 93

[Text] The CONTACT news agency reports, on the basis of news obtained from Zugdidi, that additional forces of the Interior and Defense Ministries had entered the town.

Total control of Zugdidi is being implemented section by section. It is quiet in Zugdidi. No excesses have taken place.

Sections of Gamsakhurdia's armed gangs have dispersed in the nearby woods but most of them fled in the direction of Gali.

Now, some information that we have received more recently. Zaza Bilikhodze, an employee of Georgia's Interior Ministry press service told the KONTAKT News Agency that today an additional contingent of the Interior Ministry forces led by Interior Minister Lieutenant General Shote Kvaria had entered the town. Its aim is to restore public order, fight against marauders, and guard vitally important installations.

At the moment, the criminal situation is extremely tense in Zugdidi. The police have started patrolling the town. Operational monitoring groups are moving about in the streets. The population have met the police with a kind disposition and hopes that order will soon be restored in Zugdidi.

The Mkhedrioni yesterday detained one of Loti Kobalia's deputies named Gulua, nicknamed "Kirugu." He said during preliminary questioning that 70 percent of the fighters from the units subordinated to him had laid down their arms and made the decision to lead a peaceful life and they have sworn loyalty to the authorities.

We also have information, according to which Gamsakhurdia has called on his supporters to leave Georgia with him and follow him to Chechnya to settle where Dudayev had allegedly allotted 100 hectares to Gamsakhurdia and his supporters. It is as yet unknown as to how Gamsakhurdia reacted to this proposal.

Strategic Point Captured

LD0711150693 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 1400 GMT 7 Nov 93

[Text] Soso Marghisvili, head of the Georgian Defense Ministry's press service, told the CONTACT news agency that after the successful operation of liberating Tsalenjikha and Zugdidi, the government troops and, in

particular, military units from Brigade No. 11 of the Defense Ministry and military police units, today occupied the point of high strategic importance, (Masuri), which is situated on the crossroads between Tchkhoratsku and Tsalenjikha.

Prisoners from the opposing side were captured today. There are Abkhaz and Chechen nationals among them.

The government troops are continuing operations to liquidate illegal gangs.

Curfew Imposed on All Western Rayons

LD0711165093 Moscow ITAR-TASS World Service in Russian 1536 GMT 7 Nov 93

[By GIA-TASS correspondent]

[Text] Tbilisi, 7 Nov—A curfew has been imposed in all rayons of Western Georgia now under the control of government troops. The Georgian Information Agency reported today that it runs from 2200 to 0600.

The legitimate authorities are being restored in each of the rayons that have been completely liberated from the illegal armed formations of the ex-president's supporters. Active work is being carried out through the joint efforts of the local administrations, law-enforcement bodies, and the military police to establish order and supply the population with electricity and food.

New Zugdidi Governor on Situation

LD0711225193 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 1900 GMT 7 Nov 93

[Interview with newly appointed Governor of Zugdidi (Edisher Charkadzia) by correspondent Nino Zautashvili on 7 November; place not given—recorded]

[Text] [(Charkadzia)] Zugdidi is under the control of government forces. At about 1400 today the government troops arrived.

[Zautashvili] How did the town's population greet the government forces?

[(Charkadzia)] The population greeted them with enthusiasm.

[Zautashvili] Do you know where the ex-president's supporters and Loti Kobalia are now?

[(Charkadzia)] They must have left the area. They are not within the town limits. I think they are hiding in the woods, though only a very small proportion of them are there.

[Zautashvili] Do you know anything about the whereabouts of the ex-president himself?

[(Charkadzia)] We have no confirmed reports as yet. However, we can say that he is on the territory of Abkhazia. The Zviadists are on the opposite side of the Inguri river [which forms part of the border between Mingrelia and Abkhazia] and our people are on this side.

[Zautashvili] We have information about several incidents of looting.

[(Charkadzia)] There was an incident at about 1700 today. However, there were nine people involved in the incident that included locals and people from Khobi. They were wiped out. They had plundered the whole street. This was an act of banditry. One of them is Zarkhua, who was a member of Loti Kobalia's special unit. Another one has the surname of Jikia.

[Zautashvili] You are a newly appointed governor of the town of Zugdidi. When the government troops one day withdraw from Zugdidi, what forces will protect the town?

[(Charkadzia)] An interior affairs department will be set up, which will include all law-enforcement bodies. Interior troops will probably stay. These are the forces that will maintain order.

[Zautashvili] Thank you very much and I wish you success.

Martvili Area Villages 'Liberated'

LD0811073693 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 0500 GMT 8 Nov 93

[Text] Mountain zone villages in the Martvili rayon and, among them the village of Didi Chkoni, were liberated yesterday by 1200 [0900 GMT]. Defense and Interior Ministry subunits carried out the operation.

Tkvarcheli Termed New 'Hotbed of Conflict'

PM0811130993 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 6 Nov 93 First Edition p 2

[Report by Yekaterina Akhalkatsi: "Without Sharing their Catch in Tkvarcheli, North Caucasus Gunmen Have Used Grenade Throwers"]

[Text] Tbilisi—The Georgian Internal Affairs Ministry press service reports that a new hotbed of conflict has emerged in the republic. It is Tkvarcheli, a city which is under the control of the North Caucasus gunmen.

They were not able to "agree" on sharing out the houses abandoned by the local inhabitants. Grenade throwers and hand grenades were used. The casualties include not only Chechens and Adygei, who were participants in the conflict, but also civilians, including refugees from Sukhumi.

The Georgian prosecutor's office has turned for help to the Russian prosecutor's office, asking for an examination of the legality of the activity of the Confederation of Caucasus Peoples "right up to bringing criminal charges against its leaders, whose irresponsible actions run counter to Russia's official policy..."

Henceforth the inhabitants of West Georgia will be protected by a landing force which arrived in Poti yesterday to guard transport communications on the republic's coast. This action is being carried out according to an agreement between Russia and Georgia and by agreement with the Ukrainian president.

Kent Brown, U.S. ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to Georgia, who has visited Eduard Shevardnadze in Abasha, said that the U.S. side has expressed the readiness to take part in Georgian-Abkhazian talks which may take place in late November in Geneva. Russian-Georgian dialogue on the Abkhazian problem has also been renewed.

One of the most topical problems in West Georgia in the zone of hostilities is pillage and violence. On orders from the commander in chief of Georgia's armed forces, the defense ministry, ministry of internal affairs, and military prosecutor's office are forming extraordinary special detachments. In emergencies the extraordinary special detachments have been given powers to summarily execute those who are insubordinate.

Black Sea Fleet Lands Troops, Armor in Poti

LD0611170593 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1347 GMT 6 Nov 93

[Text] About 750 marines and 40 armored vehicles landed in the port of Poti in the west of Georgia, INTERFAX learned from the headquarters of the Black Sea Fleet. The marines will guard the sea port, the bridge on the road to Batumi, as well as essential motor roads and railways.

According to the headquarters, the Black Sea Fleet units "actively interact" with Georgia's government troops.

Three ships from the Black Sea Fleet are directly in the port, while the remaining 6 detailed for the operation are in the harbor.

Ukrainian Troops Reportedly Killed, Wounded

LD0611175393 Kiev UNIAR in Ukrainian 1245 GMT 6 Nov 93

[Text] Sevastopol, 5 Nov—According to the State Independence of Ukraine [Derzhavna Samostiynist Ukrayniy] press service, troops were landed from combat ships of the Black Sea Fleet on to the territory of the town of Poti, in Georgia. During the landing the troops were subjected to gunfire by the armed formations loyal to the former president, Zviad Gamsakhurdia. The marines, many of whom are citizens of Ukraine, engaged in fighting. There are killed and wounded among these Ukrainian citizens.

Assassination Attempt Fails Against Defense Minister

LD0611192893 Tbilisi First Program Television Network in Georgian 1700 GMT 6 Nov 93

[Text] Another terrorist act against the military leadership of Georgia took place on a road between Samtredia and Abasha yesterday [5 November].

The Defense Minister Major General Gia Karkarashvili, a National Guard commander Major General Jemal Chumburidze, and accompanying officials were returning from the town of Abasha after a meeting there. When they reached the outskirts of the town, the defense minister's car was blown up by a controlled mine. The explosion disabled the car. The minister's driver was slightly injured. Karkarashvili himself and the accompanying officials miraculously escaped death.

An investigation is under way into the incident.

[Unidentified official who was traveling with Karkarashvili during the incident] When Karkarashvili left the car we thought that he had been injured. He suffered severe shell-shock. The explosion may have caused some damage. He was in pain immediately after the explosion. We rushed to him and Karkarashvili told us to switch off the headlights. We knew that there had been an explosion, but failed to judge whether it had been an attack or not. We took our machine guns and lay on the ground. However, there was no shooting. There was only the explosion.

Some time later, after the situation became clearer, we inspected the car and found that it had virtually been dismantled, as you can see now. This was a powerful explosion. The explosion happened at exactly the moment Karkarashvili's car approached the spot where the mine had been planted. It was a premeditated act of sabotage directed against the defense minister.

Security Minister's Helicopter Fired On Over Poti

LD0711201693 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 1900 GMT 7 Nov 93

[Text] The CONTACT news agency reports that at 1400 today, unidentified gunmen opened fire on a civilian helicopter that contained the republic's Security Minister Igor Giorgadze. The helicopter was on a reconnaissance flight over the port of Poti and adjacent territories, conducted jointly by the Georgian Security Ministry and Russian Army units. No one was hurt in the incident. Security Ministry special units are clearing the area of anti- government gangs of bandits.

Gamsakhurdia Thought Likely To Regroup in Abkhazia

PM0511171193 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 4 Nov 93 First Edition p 1

[Valeriy Russu report: "Georgia: Fighting Continues, but They Are Already Discussing Where Gamsakhurdia Has Escaped To"]

[Text] Tbilisi—Information from the region of hostilities in western Georgia is extremely contradictory. For example, the "Vesti" program on 2 November reported that government troops had taken control of the city of Khobi. But according to data from the duty officer at the Republic of Georgia Defense Ministry, fighting was taking place on the city streets at 0900 hours 3 November. There are casualties on both sides, but nobody can give a precise figure.

In connection with the events taking place in the western regions of the republic, head of state E. Shevardnadze has urged the population of Mingrelia to make a decisive contribution to preserving the country's unity. In his opinion they should appeal to members of the former president's armed formations to lay down their arms and stop this fratricidal war.

But it seems more likely that the ex-president, like his supporters, will fight to the death. Especially now that they have gotten reinforcements from Abkhazia and the Confederation of Peoples of the Caucasus.

We can predict that Gamsakhurdia is unlikely to renounce the idea of getting his former job back. We should expect that, in the event of a defeat, most of his subunits will withdraw to Abkhazian territory. Gamsakhurdia would be prompted to take this step by a number of factors. First, he would be able to preserve the backbone of his armed formations because, with 230,000 refugees and 90 percent of its citizens living below the poverty line, official Tbilisi would hardly risk going any further, i.e. continuing its offensive against Abkhazia, bearing in mind that winter is approaching and the economic situation is disastrous. Second, the former president's supporters, although they did not send the main forces of their regular army to help Sukhumi, did help the Gudauta group to conquer the autonomous formation's capital. So it could be said that the Abkhazian authorities and Gamakhurdia are in a certain sense allies.

There is also a view that another option open to the ex-president is to try to gain reinforcements in Ajaria. And there has even been a report that preparations for doing this are already being made in Batumi. But these are no more than rumors, the Ajarian Supreme Soviet Press Service has stated.

The situation in the liberated regions is extremely complex. Right now gangs of people from the major population centers where military headquarters are operating have moved into the countryside, which they are sacking mercilessly.

Gamsakhurdia Reported To Plan Move to Chechnya

LD0811104793 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 0900 GMT 8 Nov 93

[Excerpts] Police Lieutenant Colonel Valerian Gogolashvili, head of the Georgian Interior Ministry press center, has told a SAKINFORM correspondent by telephone that on 7 November police reinforcements led by Interior Minister Lieutenant General Shota Kviraia entered Zugdidi. Checkpoints have been set up at every point of entry into the city. Mobile operational groups have been formed. Power stations, the flour and bread plants, and the museum of state history have been put under their special protection.

The population has a positive attitude toward the police and is ready to help law-enforcement officials on duty restore order to the region.

A curfew has been imposed between 1900 and 0700. Curfew regulations are rather strict. A policeman has a discretionary right to sentence a curfew violator to one month's imprisonment. [passage omitted]

Yesterday, Mkhedrioni members arrested one of Loti Kobalia's deputies, Bulia, also known as Kiroki. He said during preliminary questioning that 70 percent of the fighters under his command have laid down their arms and decided to start a peaceful life. They have pledged loyalty to the authorities.

There is also a report saying that Gamsakhurdia has called on his supporters to leave the territory of Georgia and move with him to Chechnya, where [Chechen leader] Jokhar Dudayev has allotted 100 hectares of land to Gamsakhurdia and his supporters. It is still unknown how Gamsakhurdia's supporters responded to his proposal.

Opposition Leader Kobalia Vows To Continue Fight

LD0611213293 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 2000 GMT 6 Nov 93

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] This evening we received an address signed by Vakhtang Kobalia, the commander of the opposition military units. In this document, Kobalia asserts that Russian military subunits are deployed at the present time in a region that has nothing to do with the railway line which is subject to having a guard on it. [as heard] Moreover, Kobalia rejects Shevardnadze's call to lay down arms and says in this document that his army will fight to the last drop of blood.

Abkhaz Officials Deny Presence of Zviadists

LD0711205593 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 2000 GMT 7 Nov 93

[Text] On Sunday [7 November], Georgian head of state Eduard Shevardnadze visited Zugdidi, the last stronghold of the armed Zviadist formations that Georgian police and internal troop subunits took under control the day before. Georgian officials assert that Zviad Gamsakhurdia himself, and about 1,000 of his supporters, have taken refuge in the territory of Abkhazia. The Abkhaz authorities deny this report; they regard such reports as a pretext for the Georgian side to start military action on Abkhaz territory.

Border Guards Criticize Abkhazia for Forming Troops

LD0811151493 Tbilisi IBERIA in Georgian 1100 GMT 8 Nov 93

[Text] [no dateline as received] An IBERIA correspondent learned from the republic's border troops department press center that another infringement of Georgia's territory has been recorded.

Information has been circulated through SAKINFORM channels that Abkhazia has set up its own border units, the aim of which is to guard Abkhazia's border within the territory adjacent to the rivers Psou and Enguri where two checkpoints and three border posts will be set up.

The Georgian border troops press center declares that such an action by the Abkhaz side is illegal. Georgia's territorial integrity, with the territory of Abkhazia included, has been recognized by the world commonwealth [as received]. The republic's internal administrative and territorial borders are not subject to guarding. Georgia can only be guarded by its own border troops.

Pro-Tbilisi Abkhaz Ministry Calls Up Troops

LD0711202093 Tbilisi First Program Television Network in Georgian 1800 GMT 7 Nov 93

[Text] All employees of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Abkhazia, who are now in Tbilisi and areas near Tbilisi, are to report to the Georgian Ministry of Internal Affairs at 0900 tomorrow, 8 November.

All employees of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Abkhazia who are now in western Georgian regions are to report in full combat gear to the rayon police department in the town of Senaki at 1500 tomorrow, 8 November.

The Ministry of Internal Affairs of Abkhazia.

Ex-Abkhaz Leader Appointed Deputy Prime Minister

LD0511230093 Moscow INTERFAX in English 2029 GMT 5 Nov 93

[Text] One of the former leaders of the Abkhazian Autonomous Republic, Tamaz Nadareishvili, has been appointed deputy prime minister of Georgia. He will be dealing with the consequences of the conflict in Abkhazia.

Nadareishvili told Interfax that "bringing Abkhazia back" was the main purpose of his life. The fighting between government forces and the rebels of Georgian ex-President Zviad Gamsakhurdia made this more difficult, "but I will do my best to make it happen as soon as possible," he said.

"I will only consider my mission accomplished when the national flag of Georgia flutters again on the border along the Psou River," Nadareishvili said.

Minister Says Zugdidi Starting Point for Freeing Abkhazia

NC0511190093 Yerevan SNARK in English 1500 GMT 5 Nov 93

[Text] Abasha (Western Georgia), November 5 (SNARK)—Givi Lominadze, Georgian state minister on Megrelia told SNARK Zugdidi which will be set free by the governmental forces, will then become a basic point for beginning the operation on setting Abkhazia free. He also mentioned that only one thing prevents capturing Zugdidi—the last stronghold of the ex-President's supporters. It's a bacillus of the so-called "Zviadism". There needs time to ruin the bacillus. The state minister told there should be undertaken the explanatory work to show the people those who can be considered as the Georgians' killers.

Shevardnadze's Aide Views Political Solution

NC0811162193 Yerevan SNARK in English 1230 GMT 8 Nov 93

[Text] Tbilisi, November 8 (SNARK)—Teimuraz Stepanov, an assistant of Eduard Shevardnadze, speaks for the resourcefulness, not the maximalism, to search for political solution of the Abkhazian problem.

Meanwhile, speaking to SNARK's reporter he said that it's impossible to reconcile to the fact of the Abkhazia being occupied because it's a part of Georgia. If there is a chance to regulate the conflict politically, it should be used.

Tbilisans Favor Elections, Talks To Resolve Crisis

PM0811132593 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 3 Nov 93 First Edition p 1

[Yekaterina Akhalkatsi report: "Tbilisi People's Opinion on Solution to Crisis and War"]

[Text] Tbilisi—According to the results of a sociological poll carried out by the "Psychological Service" center, 34 percent of the people of Tbilisi believe that new parliamentary elections and talks between the opposing sides constitute the way out of the crisis and war. Some 26 percent want the present leadership to strengthen power by means of military force. Some 12.8 percent believe that a solution would be for both opposing sides to withdraw from the political arena and a new political force to come to power. Some 1.2 percent want the restoration of Gamsakhurdia to power.

Delegation Returns From Regional Talks in Turkey

LD0611214893 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 1900 GMT 6 Nov 93

[Text] A Georgian parliamentary delegation led by parliament speaker Vakhtang Goguadze returned to Tbilisi from Turkey today, 6 November.

The delegation took part in a meeting of the interparliamentary assembly of economic cooperation among countries of the Black Sea basin held in Istanbul 2-5 November. The delegation included MPs Zurab Andriadze, Malkhaz Baramidze, and Kartlos Gharibashvili and the Georgian head of state's chief state adviser, Nodar Komakhidze.

Ahmet Eriza Demirel, acting charge d'affaires of the Republic of Turkey in Georgia, met with the Georgian delegation at Tbilisi airport.

Speaking at a news conference, Vakhtang Goguadze gave a high assessment of the work carried out by the interparliamentary assembly of countries of the Black Sea basin and stressed that Georgia's relations with Turkey and other neighboring countries are developing successfully. The meeting in Istanbul was another proof of this.

Estonia

Luik Expects Yeltsin-Meri Summit in Nov

MK0611134093 Moscow NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA in Russian 6 Nov 93 p 3

[Ilya Nikiforov report under the "Estonia" rubric: "Boris Yeltsin and Lennart Meri To Meet as Early as November, Defense Minister Juri Luik Said"]

[Text] The meeting between Boris Yeltsin and Algirdas Brazauskas in Moscow has revived talk, which seemed to have already subsided, about a possible summit of the Estonian and Russian presidents. Juri Luik, Estonian Republic defense minister, who heads the republic's delegation to the Russian-Estonian talks, also thought it necessary to speak out on the subject. First of all, he denied reports that the summit would take place on 9-11 November. In the same breath, however, he expressed his hope that the presidents of the two countries would be able to meet in person as early as this month.

In Juri Luik's view, the meeting between the two presidents will focus on the withdrawal of Russian troops from Estonia. The minister is certain that both sides are interested in resolving this problem.

Talks between Boris Yeltsin and Algirdas Brazauskas have not impressed Estonian analysts; moreover, the analysts are in a critical mood. As Minister Juri Luik noted, it appeared to him that Russia was not going to change its policy with regard to the Baltic states at all. The editor in chief of ERIPAEV, an authoritative Estonian newspaper for business people, voiced a generally held view that if Boris Yeltsin meets with Estonian President Lennart Meri on the eve of elections for the Federal Assembly, he would pay heed to the patriotic opposition in the first place so as to avoid giving them any pretext for criticism. ERIPAEV believes that in exchange for the promise to speed up the withdrawal of troops, Boris Yeltsin will demand from Lennart Meri that Estonia grant citizenship to all noncitizens immediately and unconditionally and give up all territorial claims... In the newspaper's view, for Estonian-Russian relations this will amount to a heightening of confrontation.

What is left outside the comments on a possible Russian-Estonian summit are Lennart Meri's real powers in Estonia's political life.

Under the Estonian Republic Constitution, the president has a fairly wide range of powers but he can make use of them only if he has a parliamentary majority behind him. In the past few months, however, Lennart Meri's relations with the ruling coalition have turned sour. Things have gone so far that Lennart Meri went on television just one day before local elections to explicitly criticize the ruling "Fatherland" party, which actually made him president. Only an electoral defeat made the ruling party hold back its offensive against the president and his powers. Finally, the parliamentary majority had to agree to adjust a provision of the Law on International Relations that did not suit the president in any way: namely, to grant him the right to sign international treaties on behalf of the republic. Despite this forced concession, however, there has been no visible improvements in relations between the president and the parliamentary majority. For instance, Lennart Meri made a point of not congratulating Julo Nugis from the "Fatherland" party on his reappointment as parliamentary speaker, and Julo Nugis did not think it fit to pay a visit to the Presidential Palace.

In the past few months, the president's approval rating among ordinary voters has been steadily rising. Among other things, this was because he promptly distanced himself from the ruling coalition, whose authority is steadily declining. This does not mean, however, that Lennart Meri went over to the opposition. What it does mean is that the Estonian president does not have "his own party" at the State Assembly and, being unable to rely on his parliament's backing, he could hardly discuss with Boris Yeltsin any matters except the withdrawal of troops, but then again only in general outlines. Nonetheless, the Estonian side has been pinning great hopes on the two presidents' possible summit. Among other things, for establishing a date for starting yet another round of Estonian- Russian talks.

Lithuania

Brazauskas Views Issues, Moscow Visit

LD0511163993 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 0735 GMT 5 Nov 93

[News conference by President Algirdas Brazauskas in Vilnius on 5 November—live or recorded]

[Excerpts] [Zickus] Mr. President, was the issue of returning the 13 January criminals discussed? And the second question: You met your former superior, Mr. Volskiy, who has since become one of the prominent (?architects) of the restoration of the Soviet Union. During your meeting, did you discuss issues which Mr. Volskiy invited you to discuss in Simferopol? Did you succeed in finding a common language?

[Brazauskas] Yes, we discussed the whole package of agreements, including an agreement between the Russian Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Lithuanian Ministry of Internal Affairs. It has been prepared and it will be signed on 15 November. This was very indirect [as heard] and we, together with Mr. Yeltsin and others, recalled that so far the Russian parliament has not ratified an agreement on mutual legal cooperation. Of course, on the basis of these agreements we will be able to demand that these criminals be returned to Lithuania, or that we be allowed to question them.

About Mr. Volskiy, I wish to say first of all that Mr. Volskiy never was my superior, never in my life. I do not want such an impression to remain with the radio

listeners and television viewers. Volskiy is at present the head of a very important organization. He is not a politician, I would say, but the chairman of the presidium of the Russian Union of Industrialists and Businessmen. The cooperation of our industrialists with Russian industrialists and businessmen is an important issue and, therefore, this meeting was devoted not to the politics your are thinking about, but to a very concrete, businesslike cooperation, useful to Lithuanian industrialists. [passage omitted]

[Vaintraubas] You always stress that Lithuania must become a bridge between East and West. Meanwhile, various services are blocking this with their inactivity and ignorance, or for various other reasons. I refer here to the visa service, the Bank of Lithuania, the customs. How do you intend to react to these actions by officials which are discrediting you ?

[Brazauskas] [Words indistinct] government decisions must be implemented. If there are individual officials or departments which ignore these decisions or attempt to introduce their own order, this will be met with a corresponding response. And I invite the government and the ministers to do this in the nearest future. [passage omitted]

[Uscila, INTERFAX] Your Excellency, agreements were not signed, but, it seems, there was talk about the prospects for cooperation. I would like to ask you to state how, after this visit, you view prospects for Lithuanian-Russian cooperation. Which spheres will be dealt with? The second question is whether the problems of the Baltic region were discussed, especially of our neighbors, Latvia and Estonia?

[Brazauskas] It is impossible to reply with a single sentence about the prospects for cooperation. I think that this meeting laid foundations for further cooperation between the two neighboring countries. I could note that we devoted a substantial part of our conversation to the Kaliningrad region, to relations between Lithuania and Russia regarding the Kaliningrad region. This issue is of interest to Russia and of great interest to us, to Lithuania. The invitation to Mr. Chernomyrdin to visit Lithuania and sign some agreements is one of the reasons—the Kaliningrad region—and relations with Russia will evaluate the interest of the Kaliningrad region and of Lithuania. [sentence as heard] As for the Baltic states, I cannot say that this was extensively discussed, but I noted that relations between the presidents of these states are stable, that we discuss relations between Russia and the Baltic states. I reiterated that we presidents of the three Baltic states, responded quickly to the events in Russia at the beginning of October. I understood that this was positively received by Mr. Yeltsin.

[Racas] Mr. President, we remember that your visit to Moscow did not take place because there was no agreement on compensation for damage. Why was this issue not discussed during this visit? Second question: Moscow marked your visit by stopping the supply of oil to Mazeikiai. Have you succeeded in reaching an agreement on resuming supplies?

[Brazauskas] As for the supply of oil to Mazeikiai, I think that there was no connection. I do not think that someone attempted to stage such a development of events. I think that the stop in the supply of oil to Mazeikiai—and no one is denying the fact of the stoppage—may show people, who are very opposed to economic and businesslike relations between the Lithuanian Government and the corresponding structures in Russia, that we are able simply and very quickly to cope with the situation by completely rejecting and being isolated from Russian oil suppliers. I think that this is a very good sign and those who were speaking so beautifully and ignoring this possibility and this agreement, which is very useful to us, can see today what it means to Lithuania.

As for compensation for damage, we frequently articulate this without evaluating the situation of our partner. It was mentioned indirectly. It was mentioned as one of the most important topics of the negotiations. It is hardly possible categorically to solve it during such meeting between presidents. [passage omitted]

[Nerijus Maliukevicius] In conclusion, I would like to remind you, probably it is not modest for the president to say it himself, that this visit was the first by any president to Moscow following the October events in Moscow and, of course, this was the first official meeting of the Lithuanian and Russian presidents.

Landsbergis Comments on Brazauskas' Moscow Trip

LD0511193893 Vilnius Radio Vilnius Network in Lithuanian 1400 GMT 5 Nov 93

[Text] The leader of the Seimas opposition, Vytautas Landsbergis, called the visit by Brazauskas to Moscow a mysterious journey. Even the Seimas Foreign Affairs Committee did not essentially know anything about it.

At his news conference in the Seimas, Landsbergis drew the attention of journalists to the fact that not a single agreement has been signed, although their drafts had been prepared long time ago. In the view of Vytautas Landsbergis, Russia will attempt to obtain as many concessions as possible from Lithuania, notably in trade and economic relations. He regretted that it is intended to limit the functions of the state negotiating delegations, essentially handing them over to the Foreign Affairs Ministry. It is even worse, in his view, if other ministries will be instructed to prepare and sign agreements. Departments cannot represent the interests of the state.

Vytautas Landsbergis had doubts whether normal interstate negotiations will take place. He was concerned that it might happen that only orders by the presidents are fulfilled.

Gylys Interviewed on Relations With Russia

LD0511204793 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1527 GMT 5 Nov 93

[Report by diplomatic correspondents Dmitriy Voskoboinikov, Igor Porshnev, Vitaliy Trubetskoy, and others; from the "Diplomatic Panorama" feature]

[Text] Even though there are no Russian troops in Lithuania any longer, the republic doesn't feel that it is absolutely safe, because the withdrawal of Russian military units from Latvia and Estonia has not been concluded, and Russia's Kaliningrad Region "remains extremely militarized." Lithuania's Foreign Minister, Povilas Gylys, stated in an interview with INTERFAX in Moscow on Thursday.

Nevertheless, he noted that Lithuania's concern over this issue "is quite natural, and it does not reflect a confrontational stance." "Russian politicians themselves recognize that the situation in Russia is far from being stable," he said.

According to its foreign minister, Lithuania will continue to do all it can to refrain from "causing friction in the area by rash actions or words."

As Gylys said, understanding between Russia and Lithuania is hindered partly by the circumstance that "both of us continue to be guided by old stereotypes, which runs counter to the universal trend toward a world without confrontation." "The time of confrontation between hostile blocs is over. The time has come to think about creating a global system of security which will be an effective instrument for settling all kinds of local conflicts," Gylys said.

In this connection, he pointed to the need to further Lithuania's participation in the CSCE, the North Atlantic Cooperation Council and in other international organizations.

Butkevicius Denies Illegal Arms Purchase

WS0511150693 Vilnius RESPUBLIKA in Lithuanian 26 Oct 93 No 207 p 4

[Interview with former Defense Minister Audrius Butkevicius by Ruta Grineviciute under the "Opinions" rubric; place and date not given: "Ex-Minister Will Now Take Care of Himself"

[Text] After his resignation and before leaving for studies in London, Audrius Butkevicius, independent Lithuania's first national defense minister, has answered a few questions from RESPUBLIKA's special correspondent Ruta Grineviciute.

[Grineviciute] **What does your resignation mean given the current political tension?**

[Butkevicius] I see no crisis. It could occur if someone attacked our country, or if some dramatic unrest were to arise. The current situation is the same as it has always been, or it may be even easier. My resignation was a personal decision. I now have the chance to study, organize my life, and think about my political future. I am alone as a politician. I have no group in the Seimas [parliament] supporting me.

[Grineviciute] **Does this represent your political bankruptcy?**

[Butkevicius] Not at all. Having agreed to work in the government of the Lithuanian Democratic Labor Party (I had to complete unfinished jobs), I knew beforehand as a politician what this would mean to me.

[Grineviciute] **What will you do in London?**

[Butkevicius] I hope to study the organization of security and defense systems.

[Grineviciute] **Where will you apply your knowledge?**

[Butkevicius] I am not leaving politics. I believe that I will be able to better understand Lithuania's interests that have not yet been defined on the state level.

[Grineviciute] **Who will finance your studies?**

[Butkevicius] Thus far, I have only negotiated my scholarship.

[Grineviciute] **Are you taking your family with you?**

[Butkevicius] Everything will depend on money.

[Grineviciute] **Recently, RESPUBLIKA reported on the illegal purchase of arms for the Supreme Council Security Department. The documents show that the Vagnorius government earmarked no lesser sums to the National Defense Ministry. Were you unable to oppose such illegal actions as a government member and an interested person?**

[Butkevicius] Relevant structures will establish whether this was legal or not. As for the armament of the national defense system in general, I have always thought that this issue has more political meaning than that of force. Arms must be acquired in such a manner so that our political partners can have a chance to demonstrate their trust in us when selling them. We must not buy arms from unreliable and unverified sources. Since there were also other opinions in the former government, the money was allotted to the Supreme Council Security Department bypassing me, so that it would go to the arming of the Volunteer National Defense Service [SKAT].

[Grineviciute] **From where did the money for SKAT arms purchases come?**

[Butkevicius] The monies came from a fund controlled by the prime minister and were transferred to foreign firms. As far as I know, part of this contract has not yet been fulfilled. I have protested against this purchase publicly several times.

[Grineviciute] **Is it true that when buying arms, the government was not even embarrassed to cooperate with suppliers from "hot spots" in the former Soviet Union—the Chechen Republic and so on?**

[Butkevicius] The national defense system did not receive a single firearm through them. There was a certain period following the events of 13 January when we were buying such arms as carbines left over from World War II, sporting guns, and those that were on the Lithuanian market. We are transferring them to museums now.

The withdrawing Russian Army would often "write off" part of its arms for profit that were later sold in Lithuania. The same happened in Germany and the Czech Republic....

[Grineviciute] **Could Lithuania, a country possessing an army, not control this process?**

[Butkevicius] Only when similar things occur, one usually remembers that Lithuania has its own Army. One forgets, however, that we had no money allotted for the Russian Army withdrawal, and that we used funds earmarked for the national defense system. On the whole, the National Defense Ministry is too small to meet Lithuania's needs.

[Grineviciute] **Do you think that the National Defense Ministry will collapse without you?**

[Butkevicius] We will do everything so that the new minister can work properly. I believe that we will do this in a nice and dignified manner.

[Grineviciute] **You came to the first Lithuanian government as a herald of new Lithuania, while you are leaving like everyone else—a much richer person who has assured a quiet future for himself. Recently, you bought a 210-square-meter apartment in the center of Vilnius that, in the experts' opinion, costs about $60,000.**

[Butkevicius] I do not feel that I have violated any of my principles or become very rich. I did not save much working as a minister. Certainly, I searched for different possibilities. However, this is not associated with some state money or abuse of my position in the true sense of the word.

[Grineviciute] **Do you plan to engage in business activities?**

[Butkevicius] My family and I had such plans after my resignation. They have changed, however, but this is my own business.

LDDP Council Holds Meeting, Elects Leaders

WS0811120093 Vilnius TIESA in Lithuanian 26 Oct 93 No 208 p 5

[Report by Algirdas Strumskis: "Discussion on Party's Present and Future. LDDP Council Meeting"]

[Text] The Lithuanian Democratic Labor Party [LDDP] won the majority of votes in the Seimas [parliament] elections just a year ago. This year has passed quickly. Every Lithuanian resident assesses it differently. Some people say that their wallets are becoming fuller, while others.... It is clear, however, that people's harassment, of which they were sick and tired, is over. In the prime minister's opinion, a tendency toward economic stabilization is noticeable. This irritates the opposition, and the latter is rallying forces for the next elections. It is eager to return to power.

However, some of the LDDP members inside and outside the Seimas think that over this year, the LDDP has lacked the determination and more radical decisions, particularly concerning government officials. They claim that this hampers the implementation of the party's electoral program. A few weeks ago, an "LDDP Program Group," founded by A. Ivaskevicius and V. Petkevicius, emerged in the LDDP Seimas faction. Its members, who number over 20, stated that the party was "moving away from its proclaimed political ideas and electoral program."

This gave rise to a discussion. The later has begun at the time when the opposition is trying to win over the community by populist statements. Last Saturday [23 October], participants in the LDDP Council meeting debated this issue in a heated but tolerant manner. The discussion was attended by a number of representatives from territorial organizations.

Six Months of the Sixth Government

LDDP Chairman A. Slezevicius, who presided over the meeting, delivered a report on the implementation of the party's electoral program. He said that the sixth government reached the most important moment six months ago—the economy began to stabilize. The opposition's claims that the world will turn away from us proved wrong. Last Friday, the IMF gave a positive assessment of Lithuania's monetary policy and signed an economic policy memorandum for 18 months. The World Bank also supports the LDDP government policy. Opportunities for receiving foreign credits are emerging.

The energy problem is one of the government's big concerns. It has better prepared for the coming winter. Lithuania has received credits to buy nuclear fuel. A. Slezevicius said that the project of the Butinge oil terminal should be implemented more actively.

The government is concerned about agricultural issues. Replying to criticism, the prime minister admitted that the state had no possibilities to finance agricultural production. It is not that the government was bad, but that it had no funds. The prime minister wondered whether we would again like to introduce supportive prices, quotas, and tasks for the regions.

The government will protect the Lithuanian market from foreign foodstuffs. However, the debt of food

processing enterprises to farmers has increased again. That is why the organizers of farmers' strikes have become more active.

The LDDP leader said that their greatest concern was social policy. The government was doing everything to halt the drop in people's living standards. The key issue was to curb inflation. The government managed to achieve something here. For example, between January and September 1992, the inflation rate was over 544 percent, while over the same period of this year it dropped almost four-fold—to 137 percent. Its recent fall was particularly prominent—in July, August, and September it was only 2.9, 0.9, and 4.2 percent, respectively.

A curb on inflation and the regulation of wages helped the government achieve a major breakthrough in halting the drop in real wages. Since June 1993, wages have not only remained the same, but also increased slightly (between June and September they rose by 12 percent). The rise in pensions exceeded that in wages. Additional support was planned for poor families that cannot afford to pay for the heating of their apartments. There are projects to restructure the entire system of family benefits. The rate of unemployment has slowed down.

The government has allotted an additional 70 million litai to the police, prosecutor's office, and courts. About 180 suspects have been detained. The brutal murder of journalist V. Lingys proved that crime prevention is unsatisfactory.

Speaking about party matters, A. Slezevicius proposed to elect new people to the LDDP Council Presidium, who would be better representatives of territorial organizations. He insisted that G. Kirkilas and V. Beriozovas remain the LDDP first deputy and deputy chairmen.

Summarizing his address, the LDDP leader proposed to dispel all doubts at the meeting about the discussion in the LDDP Seimas faction bearing any negative slant. It is good the LDDP faction has some people with their own position and principles on how to better implement the party's program and exert more influence on social processes. It is very important that discussions be followed by definite work. This must be achieved on all levels. "We," said A. Slezevicius, "still have enough time to implement the LDDP program. True, we have become confused a little, because the opposition is doing everything to destabilize the situation. A growth in real wages removes the social basis for different speculations and insinuations."

Position of the LDDP Program Group

Seimas Deputies K. Jaskelevicius, A. Ivaskevicius, V. Petkevicius, and M. Stakvilevicius, who founded an "LDDP program group" along with several other LDDP members, said that the party's program was not being implemented. True, they did not present many proposals. M. Stakvilevicius does not believe that the economic stabilization is perceptible. He said that we were not restoring relations with the East and were losing eastern markets. He criticized the visa regime between Lithuania and the CIS.

Vilkaviskis LDDP Council Chairman K. Kazlauskas and Klaipeda City Council Chairman G. Petruzis expressed their support for this founding group.

What are the more distinct arguments of this group? They were presented by V. Petkevicius. According to him, the group emerged due to the idleness of J. Karosas (LDDP faction chairman) and G. Kirkilas.

Resorting to computers, the group tried to simulate the results of the first year. According to the speaker, the LDDP made the following mistakes:

First, the party went to elections in three groups—LDDP, Forum of Lithuania's Future, and Peasant Union. The party had to register all three factions after its victory. V. Petkevicius said that each of the 75 LDDP faction members could not express their opinions in the Seimas about what they saw and understood. The LDDP activities remained autocratic.

The second mistake, said the deputy, was that the LDDP leadership was divided artificially—J. Karosas was elected chairman of the LDDP Seimas faction, and there was also LDDP First Deputy Chairman G. Kirkilas. Such activities are not typical of world political parties. The latter define policies, while parliamentary majorities implement them. The situation in the LDDP was the reverse—the faction has yielded to the rightists' influence and it is playing with them, while the party has been left aside.

The leader of this group said that the situation was unique. The president and the Seimas majority were theirs and the government was seemingly theirs, but there was no coordination between the three powers.

The speaker singled out the third mistake: The same people head the Seimas, the LDDP, and its faction.

Although being a labor party, the LDDP has no influence on trade unions. V. Petkevicius noted that there were no trade unions at all. There was a good agrarian faction, but it might soon disappear.

V. Petkevicius, as well as other LDDP Council members, mentioned the policy toward government officials. He maintained that the universal practice was the following—government officials either execute the majority's program or step down. The LDDP has only a few of its ministers in the government. What about the rest? V. Petkevicius noted that an important party meeting was going on, but how many executors of LDDP policies were present? Not a single one! Sajudis people work in regions, cities, and everywhere. V. Petkevicius called this sabotage.

He also criticized the LDDP faction for not using intellectuals, people with great experience—

academicians and professors. The latter were present in the Seimas only to raise their hands and could not show their initiative.

V. Petkevicius also scolded the newspaper TIESA for bigotry. In his opinion, "TIESA must meet the demands of the LDDP and the economic situation," no matter whether it wants this or not. He finished his speech by saying that "we must win once again—there is no other way."

Dilemma of Professionalism and Party Affiliation

Seimas Chairman C. Jursenas, LDDP faction Chairman J. Karosas, and Deputies A. Lozuraitis and G. Jurkunaite argued against V. Petkevicius group's "tough" position.

C. Jursenas proposed to recall that the LDDP is part of Lithuania, and that it spoke about this when going to elections. Currently, some LDDP members express the opinion that it is Lithuania that must serve them. The entire country is behind the LDDP, and the party must work for it and realize its true place in Lithuania.

Another issue, said the Seimas chairman, was how to coordinate the interests of Lithuania and the LDDP. There is only one method—to work according to the Constitution. The latter provides for the method and time for the takeover of power in general and in each government structure. C. Jursenas argued that if the LDDP did not like some prosecutor or self-government, which was in the rightists' hands and regulated the staff, should it send a party activist who would say that this prosecutor is unfit, and that self-government must be disbanded?

Long, patient, and thorough work is necessary. Some people, however, want immediate results. This has been the trouble and ailment of all revolutionaries—from Marx to Mao.

However, let us return to this earth. According to K. Kazlauskas from Vilkaviskis, the current atmosphere at regional offices is that of the clink of vodka bottles and the expectation of new elections....

In A. Lozuraitis' opinion, this council meeting is special. There is a certain confusion. There are some organizational flaws that can be easily overcome. It is more difficult to change the principles. A. Lozuraitis mentioned several of them.

He feels that the government system functions improperly. What is to be done? One should not avoid responsibility. One can predict why this happened. The LDDP has engaged in a strange dilemma of professionalism and party affiliation. In a normal state, such a dilemma is resolved very simply—those people who do not accept certain principles or the policies of the party that won elections, or who follow some moral norms, either withdraw from such a government or agree to execute its policies. This is a position of honorable people. Our country does not yet have such a tradition. Many of our politicians understand honor as being an official who impedes action.

Deputy A. Lozuraitis wondered what could be done in such cases. Certainly, the only measure is to apply some external control mechanism. It is obvious, however, that the latter will never replace the internal one.

Thus, cautious and careful moves that would cause no trouble must be taken here. A. Lozuraitis admitted, however, that the former activities were insufficient.

A load of power is weighing down on the LDDP, which is terribly heavy. It is dividing and ruining the LDDP.

A. Lozuraitis proposed to discuss the following option: There is a group in the party that works hard and does not make any noise. This group could give rise to a new wing or even a party. A. Lozuraitis had in mind agrarians—members of the LDDP faction. It is this group that must be legalized. Would it not be better if such groups differentiated normally—according to interests?

Changes in LDDP Leadership

All of the LDDP Council members agreed that the party's leadership must be renewed and more people from the provinces should be involved. K. Jaskelevicius proposed to elect Seimas Deputy I. Siauliene as LDDP deputy chairwoman instead of G. Kirkilas. This proposal was turned down.

Considering the constitutional requirements and a heavy workload in their immediate offices, V. Gerzonas was suspended as the LDDP deputy chairman, while L. Linkevicius, N. Germanas, and A. Meskauskas—as LDDP Council members.

Viktoras Kovsovas, the 36-year-old chairman of the regional party organization in Taurage, was elected LDDP deputy chairman.

The following people were elected to the LDDP Council Presidium: A. Sedzius (Siauliai), V. Popovas (Kaunas), V. Norvaisiene (Marijampole), P. Zablockis (Panevezys region), and A. Matulionis (presidential adviser).

Article Examines State of Emergency Law

WS0511153693 Vilnius RESPUBLIKA in Lithuanian 27 Oct 93 No 208 p 6

[Article by Audris Kutrevicius: "Will a State of Emergency Save Lithuania?"]

[Text] "If this law had been adopted earlier, a state of emergency could have been introduced in Vilnius on the day V. Lingys was murdered," said Interior Minister R. Vaitekunas to RESPUBLIKA. This law was drafted by Interior Ministry specialists long ago. According to the minister, they studied similar British and U.S. laws before drafting it. Neither side questions the necessity of such a law.

The law on states of emergency is 10 pages long. It indicates that "the basis for the introduction of the state of emergency can be any development posing a threat to Lithuania's Constitution and public peace in the entire country or part of it." The goal of this law would be "to assure national and public security, remove danger to the constitutional system or public peace, and secure human lives, health, and property." It is these obscure definitions that had the draft law stuck at the Seimas [parliament] Legislative Department. The lawyers' conclusions submitted to the Seimas cover the same amount of pages as the draft law. The position of the Legislative Department is that the essence of the draft law must be changed. Many questions arise from the phrase: "...developments posing a threat to the constitutional system or public peace."

There have been proposals to allow the president to introduce a state of emergency by a decree approved in parliament. A state of emergency can be proposed by the president, the government, and 50,000 citizens with voting rights, as well as by over half of the self-government and government representatives. People should normally be notified about the state of emergency in advance. However, if dangerous or serious crimes are committed in the country, the state of emergency may be introduced without separate notification. The term of a state of emergency is six months.

The introduction of a state of emergency is always associated with restrictions on citizens' rights. The draft law proposes to restrict basic citizens' rights—arrest on correspondence, control over mail deliveries and telephone conversations, and tightened control over homes. Law enforcement officials are granted the right to enter and search someone's home without court approval. The draft law also provides for preventive censorship and a temporary suspension or ban on the mass media. Commenting on these restrictions, Interior Minister R. Vaitekunas explained that the encroachment on someone's apartment and the interception of telephone conversations will be conducted only after receiving approval from the prosecutor general or the court, although the draft law itself states that a home may be entered without such a decision. Seimas lawyers doubt whether individual publications should be banned. The draft law should contain a principle that this can be done only if such publications pose a threat to the constitutional system or public peace. The draft law provides for another 12 restrictions—to be in public places without special permission; to keep firearms; to hold political, sporting, and commercial events; to hold rallies of more than 50 people, among others.

According to Seimas Deputy V. Ziemelis, the shortcoming of this draft law is that it interprets constitutional legal norms too broadly. In his opinion, this draft law should be applied in the event that uncontrolled social processes evolve. The growing crime rate should not be the reason for introducing a state of emergency. Presidential National Security Adviser A. Sadeckas also agrees that this law is necessary, and that it must be updated. "This law cannot be ambiguous, and everything must be strictly regulated," says A. Sadeckas.

Diplomatic Relations With Iran Reestablished

LD0511230493 Vilnius Radio Vilnius in English 2000 GMT 5 Nov 93

[Text] Lithuania and Iran have reestablished diplomatic relations. That was announced after the visit of the Lithuanian deputy foreign minister, Vladislovas Domarkas, to Tehran.

During the visit, the Lithuanian delegation had an exchange of information with the Iranian state leaders on the import and export regulation systems in both countries, on the order of setting up joint ventures, and on conditions of investing foreign capital. Yet another issue of discussion was possibilities of cooperation between Lithuanian and Iranian enterprises and institutions.